City of Toronto Fire Department

1987 Annual Report

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1987 Highlights

TFD Firefighters Awarded Ontario Medal for Bravery	55
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A third alarm fire at 220 Sherbourne Street.
Cover photo by J. Alan Harris, Information Officer.

Chief Bernard A. Bonser

Administering first aid to a burn victim.

The year 1987 was both challenging and event-filled for the Toronto Fire Department. Highlighted by awards and recognition for acts of bravery, community service, excellence in competition and outstanding daily performance by the Department's personnel, it was also a year of sobering fire loss statistics; that tally of human tragedy that only hints at the scars inflicted on victims, their loved ones, and firefighters.

Nationally, the majority of fire fatalities occurred in one- and two-family homes. With its established neighbourhoods and older homes, the City of Toronto has large numbers of these types of residential properties. Working with community groups and residents' associations, the Toronto Fire Department continues to expand its fire prevention activities, with particular efforts extended in those areas of the City identified as being potentially at higher risk.

City sub-wards with high incidences of residential fires were targeted for the "Get Alarmed" pilot project. Initiated with the co-operation and sponsorship of Operation Christmas Tree Inc., the Toronto Firefighters War Veteran's Association and Local 113, I.A.F.F., "Get Alarmed" consisted of voluntary home inspections by TFD staff. During these visits, owners and tenants were given fire prevention advice, and supplied with a free smoke alarm, if none existed. Those visited were also asked to develop a fire safety and escape plan.

Fire statistics involving these sub-wards will be carefully monitored in the coming years, to determine the effectiveness of the "Get Alarmed" program, and whether this approach to fire prevention and public education should be expanded City-wide. I believe follow-up study will prove voluntary programs of this nature are an effective means of helping to ensure all homes are protected by smoke alarms, and that citizens are more conscious of, and more committed to fire safety.

A tradition of caring

City of Toronto firefighters continued their involvement with charitable ventures in 1987, raising substantial sums and contributing many off-duty hours to a number of worthy causes and events. One of the most noteworthy was the December 20th Firefighters' CN Tower Climb, held in memory of our dear friend and comrade, Captain Donald Babineau. Proceeds from this fund-raiser were donated to the Hospital for Sick Children Capital Campaign. My sincerest gratitude and congratulations to those who organized and participated in this and similar community-oriented projects.

Departmental committees and task groups were particularly active during 1987. Studies were conducted on topics such as firefighter recruitment and training, arson prevention and fire scene investigation techniques, hazardous materials preparedness, and fighting high-rise fires. A comprehensive review of Departmental operations was also completed, and the Toronto Fire Department Master Fire Plan, 1987, was approved unanimously by Toronto City Council. The 43 recommendations tabled in the Master Fire Plan are being assessed, in order to develop priorities and strategies to improve fire prevention, protection, and life-saving services. A highly-efficient and sophisticated emergency response system will be necessary, if the Department is to keep pace with the growing number of large-scale downtown developments.

The Toronto Fire Department War Veterans Association Colour Party on parade.

A young patient at the Hospital for Sick Children enjoys the activity during a fund-raising event involving the Department.

Toronto firefighters competing in the Provincial Open First Aid Competition captured three major trophies, including first place standing. Team members from the B-1 Shift are to be commended for their outstanding performance. In proving themselves best in the Province, they have brought recognition not only to themselves, but also to the Department they represented so well.

Forging closer international ties

Our ongoing information and technology exchange program with the Peoples' Republic of China entered a new phase during 1987, following the visit to Chongqing and Beijing in May by myself and five senior members of my staff. Our trip proved to be both personally and professionally rewarding, adding to our understanding of international firefighting practices. A reciprocal visit is planned for 1988, at which time a delegation from Toronto's sister city, Chongqing, and from the Beijing Fire Bureau will be our guests, as they visit fire protection facilities throughout southern Ontario.

On November 16, 1987, I submitted a letter to Toronto City Council requesting that its members approve my retirement, effective February 1, 1988. During my term as Fire Chief I have enjoyed the co-operation of Mayor Eggleton and his fellow Council members. I have also benefitted from the support of numerous community, neighbourhood and business groups representing the citizens of Toronto. For this counsel I am most grateful.

It has been both a privilege and pleasure to serve in the capacity of Fire Chief. My job has been made easier by the dedicated and industrious employees of the Toronto Fire Department, whose principal interest is serving people.

The names of individuals and organizations to whom I owe a debt of gratitude for their assistance and guidance are too numerous to record, however, I offer my thanks to them all.

I leave the Department secure in the knowledge that its officers and staff are prepared and capable of overcoming any new challenge the future may hold. Ours is a modern, efficient and capable emergency response service, shaped by past experiences and future concerns. I am confident that its members will continue to respond with effectiveness and compassion, anticipating and meeting the community's changing needs and concerns.

Toronto Fire Department Staff

Chief Bernard A. Bonser

Deputy Chief,
Walter J. Shanahan

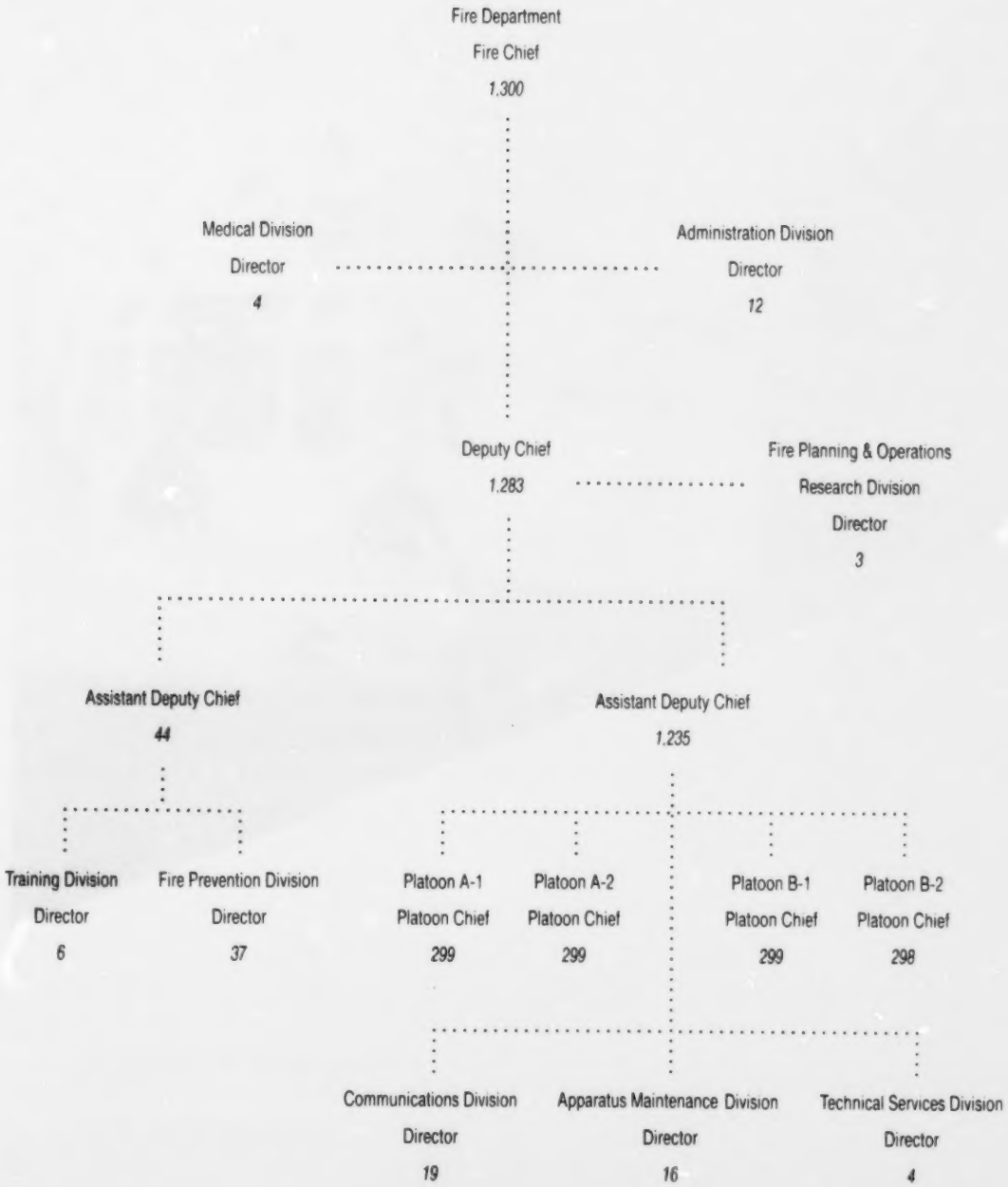
Assistant Deputy Chief,
Joseph F. Underwood

Assistant Deputy Chief,
William T. Sproule

Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Assistant Deputy Chiefs	2
Platoon Chiefs	4
Marine Captains	5
Fire Captains	204
Fire Prevention	37
Apparatus Maintenance	16
Technical Services	4
Fire Planning and Research	3
District Chiefs	36
Marine Engineers	5
Firefighters	933
Training Division	6
Medical Division	4
Communications Division	19
Administration Division	12
City of Toronto Population	606,247
City of Toronto Area	100 square kilometres
Cost of operating the Department, excluding water	$64,489,622

Firefighters work a 42-hour week, 10-hour-days and 14-hour nights, two shifts with a four platoon system.

TFD Organizational Chart and Establishment



1987 Incident Breakdown

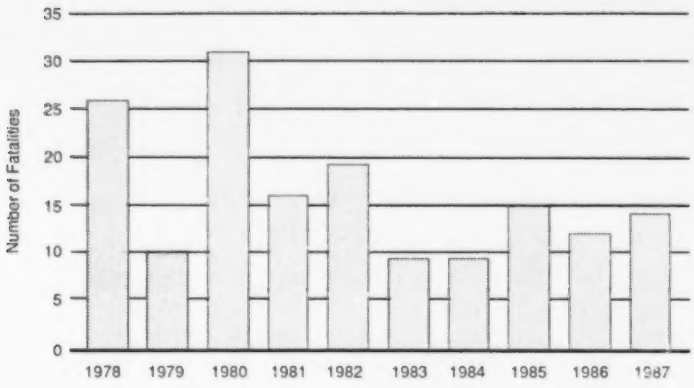
Fires:	
Buildings	2,263
Vehicles	473
Rubbish and Grass	1,160
Total Fires	3,896
Services:	
Medical	15,383
Public Service	3,758
Total Services	19,141
False Alarms	3,354
Accidental Alarms	9,373
Total Incidents All Types	36,002
Total Fire Loss	$ 16,813,203
Casualties:	
Fire fatalities (citizens)	14
Citizens injured	142
Firefighters, on-duty deaths	1
Firefighters, on duty injuries	152

Public service alarms include: rescues, accidents, chemical spills and leaks, and public hazards.

Accidental alarms inlcude: sprinkler systems, alarm systems, smoke and steam mistaken as fires, and smoke alarms activated.

1987 Fire Fatalities

Fire Fatalities 1978-1987



Date	Time	Location & Occupancy	Cause	Victim & Age
March 7	1601	614 Pape Ave. dwelling	misuse of igniting object, i.e. matches, lighter	female, infant
March 16	1343	200 Roehampton Ave. apartment	cooking equipment	female, 59
April 4	0100	25 Eden Place vehicle	undetermined	male, 41
May 14	0026	888 Dundas St. E. dwelling	careless smoking	male, 24
May 24	1839	5 Virtue Street dwelling	cooking equipment	male, 84
June 11	0520	44 Walmer Road apartment	careless smoking	male, 33
June 12	0410	60 Holly Street apartment	careless smoking	female, 57
June 17	1459	500 Commissioners Street vehicle and commercial fuel station	accidental	male, 61
June 18	2109	67 Melbourne Street dwelling	undetermined	male, 29
July 15	0507	35 Northumberland Street apartment	arson	male, 36
August 8	2210	33 Harbour Square apartment	open flame	male, 31
August 9	0921	357 Gladstone Ave. dwelling	misuse of igniting object, i.e., matches, lighter	male, 71
September 2	0036	613 Parliament Street dwelling	misuse of igniting object, i.e., matches, lighter	male, 19
September 2	0036	613 Parliament Street dwelling	misuse of igniting object, i.e., matches, lighter	male, 18

Location of Fire Stations and Districts

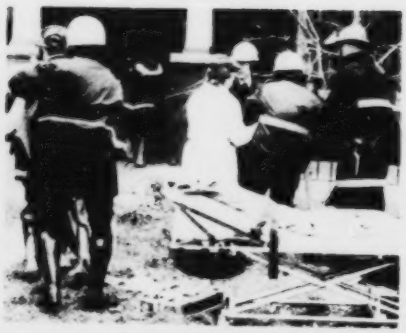
No. 1 Station	Pumper No. 1	1986 Thibault-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
260 Adelaide Street West	Aerial No. 1	1987 Thibault-Mack (diesel) 30 Metre	6 285 HP
built 1971	Pumper No. 19	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
	Fire Command 40	1987 Dodge Van (Platoon Chief)	
No. 2 Station	Pumper No. 2	1987 Superior-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
33 Claremont Street	Pumper No. 9	1987 Superior-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
built 1968	Aerial Tower No. 2	1969 Hi-Ranger-Ford (gas) 25 Metre	V8 266 HP
	Rescue No. 2	1985 Mack (diesel)	6 285 HP
	Car 44	1986 Dodge Van (District Chief 4)	
No. 3 Station	Pumper No. 3	1977 Pierreville-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 265 HP
12 Grosvenor Street			
built 1926			
No. 5 Station	Pumper No. 5	1970 LaFrance-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
207 Front Street East	Aerial Tower No. 5	1987 Hi-Ranger-Mack (diesel) 25 Metre	6 285 HP
built 1970	Rescue No. 1	1983 International (diesel)	V6 265 HP
	Car 41	1986 Dodge Van (District Chief 1)	
No. 7 Station	Pumper No. 4	1970 LaFrance-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
475 Dundas Street East	Pumper No. 7	1987 Hub-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
built 1954	Aerial No. 7	1987 Thibault-Mack (diesel) 30 Metre	6 285 HP
No. 8 Station	Pumper No. 8	1979 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
132 Bellevue Avenue	Aerial No. 8	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1878: rebuilt 1973			

No. 10 Station	Pumper No. 10	1987 Thibault-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
34 Yorkville Avenue	Aerial No. 10	1987 Thibault-Mack (diesel) 30 Metre	6 285 HP
built 1878: rebuilt 1973			
No. 11 Station	Pumper No. 11	1978 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre Foam	6 265 HP
441 Bloor Street East			
built 1967			
No. 12 Station	Pumper No. 12	1978 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
840 Gerrard Street East	Aerial No. 12	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1932			
No. 14 Station	Pumper No. 14	1983 Pierreville-International (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
1285 Dufferin Street	Aerial No. 14	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1963	Car 45	1987 Dodge Van (District Chief 5)	
No. 15 Station	Pumper No. 13	1987 Hub-Mack (diesel) 5000 Litre	6 285 HP
140 Lansdowne Avenue	Pumper No. 15	1978 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre Foam	6 265 HP
built 1972	Aerial No. 15	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
	Hazard No. 1	1985 Mack (diesel) Hazardous Material Response Vehicle	6 285 HP
No. 16 Station	Pumper No. 16	1972 Pierreville-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
83 DeForest Road			
built 1930			
No. 17 Station	Pumper No. 17	1983 Pierreville-International (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
1904 Queen Street East	Aerial No. 17	1962 Mack (gas) 30 Metre	6 267 HP
built 1905			
No. 20 Station	Pumper No. 20	1974 Thibault-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
358 Keele Street	Aerial No. 20	1980 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1954	Car 47	1987 Dodge Van (District Chief 7)	
No. 22 Station	Pumper No. 22	1981 Pierreville-International (diesel) 4000 Litre	V6 265 HP
87 Main Street	Aerial No. 22	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1910			
No. 23 Station	Pumper No. 23	1982 Pierreville-International (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
240 Howland Avenue			
built 1910			
No. 24 Station	Pumper No. 24	1971 King Seagrave-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
20 Balmoral Avenue	Aerial No. 24	1982 Pierreville-International(diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1911			
No. 25 Station	Pumper No. 25	1980 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
65 Hendrick Avenue	Aerial No. 25	1980 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 30 Metre	V8 265 HP
built 1916			
No. 26 Station	Pumper No. 26	1978 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
153 Chatham Avenue	Aerial No. 26	1968 LaFrance-Ford (gas) 30 Metre	V8 266 HP
built 1963	Car 42	1987 Dodge Van (District Chief 2)	

No. 27 Station	Pumper No. 27	1981 Pierreville-International (diesel) 4000 Litre	V6 265 HP
106 Ascot Avenue			
built 1915			
No. 28 Station	Pumper No. 28	1971 King Seagrave-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
16 Montgomery Avenue	Aerial No. 28	1974 Thibault-Ford (diesel) 30 Metre	V6 265 HP
built 1932	Car 46	1987 Dodge Van (District Chief 6)	
No. 29 Station	Pumper No. 29	1973 Pierreville-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
641 Eglinton Avenue West	Aerial No. 29	1968 LaFrance-Ford (gas) 30 Metre	V8 266 HP
built 1932			
No. 30 Station	Pumper No. 30	1977 Pierreville-Ford (diesel) 5000 Litre Foam	V6 265 HP
30 Knox Avenue	Air Supply No. 1	1983 International (gas)	V8 245 HP
built 1980:			
an addition to Fire Academy			
No. 31 Station	Pumper No. 31	1979 Pierreville-Scott (diesel) 5000 Litre	V6 265 HP
462 Runnymede Road	Aerial No. 31	1968 LaFrance-Ford (gas) 30 Metre	V8 266 HP
built 1929			
No. 32 Station			
Manitoba Drive C.N.E.			
built 1922			
No. 33 Station	Pumper No. 33	1982 Pierreville-GMC (gas) 4x4 1600 Litre	V8 165 HP
101 Cibola Avenue			
Wards Island			
No. 34 Station	Pumper No. 34	1968 LaFrance-Ford (gas) 5000 Litre	V8 266 HP
3135 Yonge Street			
built 1931			
No. 35 Station	Fireboat No. 1	1964 32000 Litre Foam (diesel) 16.5 Metre aerial	
11 Queen's Quay West			
built 1972			
Toronto Fire Academy			
895 Eastern Avenue			
built 1970			
Apparatus Division			
11 Ordinance Street			
built 1932			

Annual Response Type Listing for 1987

Response Type	Number of Runs This Year	Last Year	Difference	%
Fire	2,244	1,679	565	33.6
No-Alarm Fire	19	29	-10	-34.4
Exposure Fire	195	137	58	42.3
Vehicle Accident or Collision w/Fire	9	5	4	80.0
Vehicle Fire - Exposure	43	43	0	0.0
Vehicle Fire	463	424	39	9.1
Vehicle No-Alarm Fire	1	4	-3	-75.0
Rubbish Fire (No Dollar Loss)	1,098	1,251	-153	-12.2
Grass Fire (No Dollar Loss)	62	49	13	26.5
Chimney or Flue Fire (No Dollar Loss)	17	14	3	21.4
Furnace or Stove Malfunction	48	41	7	17.0
Explosion (No Fire)	7	9	-2	-22.2
Assistance to other Fire Departments	26	34	-8	-23.5
Washdown (Hazardous Products)	769	713	56	7.8
Natural Gas Leak	61	49	12	24.4
Propane Gas Leak	61	54	7	12.9
Radio-Active Material Problem	1	1	0	0.0
Other Dangerous Goods - Spill or Leak	70	99	-29	-29.2
Ruptured Water/Steam Pipe	297	182	115	63.1
Power Lines Down/Arcing	335	306	29	9.4
Bomb/Explosive Removal/Standby	3	4	-1	-25.0
Other (Public Hazard)	132	89	43	48.3
Vehicle Extrication	49	32	17	53.1
Persons Trapped in Elevator	486	373	113	30.2
Other (Rescues)	39	31	8	25.8
Accident - Vehicle (No Fire)	288	132	156	118.1
Accident - Home or Residential Prop.	6	8	-2	-25.0
Accident - Commercial, Indust. Prop.	23	9	14	155.5
Resuscitator - Asphyxia or Resp. Cond.	627	579	48	8.2



	Number of Runs This Year	Last Year	Difference	%
Resuscitator - Convulsions	275	101	174	172.2
Resuscitator - Electric Shock	5	1	4	400.0
Resuscitator - Traumatic Shock	7	9	-2	-22.2
Resuscitator - Drowning	8	6	2	33.3
Resuscitator - Heart Attack	777	634	143	22.5
Resuscitator - Drug Related Condition	236	97	139	143.2
Resuscitator - Not Required on Arrival	4,926	4,470	456	10.2
Resuscitator - Other	416	273	143	52.3
Malicious False Alarm - Resid. Occup.	2,103	1,651	452	27.3
Malicious False Alarm - Educ. Occup.	55	49	6	12.2
Malicious False Alarm - Other	1,196	1,053	143	13.5
Alarm No Fire - Sprinkler Pressure Surge	317	310	7	2.2
Alarm No Fire - Detector Activated	1,733	1,528	205	13.4
Alarm No Fire - Equipment Malfunction	2,854	2,427	427	17.5
Alarm No Fire - Smoke/Steam Mistaken	2,082	2,198	-116	-5.2
Alarm No Fire - Unknown Odour Invest.	1,129	1,105	24	2.1
Alarm No Fire - Accidental	1,101	1,029	72	6.9
Alarm No Fire - Other	157	195	-38	-19.4
Assistance to Police or Other Agencies	3,910	8,769	-4,859	-55.4
First Aid	4,196	236	3,960	1677.9
Other Public Service	1,037	1,112	-75	-6.7
Authorized FD Activated Activities	3	3	0	0.0
Total Incidents	36,002	33,636	2,366	7.0
Total Responses excluding No Alarm and Exposures	35,744	33,423	2,321	6.9

Annual Response Type Listing for 1987

Response Type	This Year Dollar Loss	Last Year	Difference	%
Fire	13,746,984	10,125,941	3,621,043	35.7
No-Alarm Fire	30,399	27,471	2,928	10.6
Exposure Fire	1,588,129	745,277	842,852	113.0
Vehicle Accident or Collision w/Fire	39,625	12,950	26,675	205.9
Vehicle Fire - Exposure	107,595	13,665	93,930	687.3
Vehicle Fire	1,297,471	406,538	890,933	219.1
Vehicle No-Alarm Fire	3,000	1,150	1,850	160.8
Sub-Total: Fires	16,813,203	11,332,992	5,480,211	48.3

City of Toronto Ward Boundaries

Incident Type by Location for 1987

Ward	Fires In Buildings	Vehicle	Other Runs Rubbish & Grass	Accidental	Medical	Public Service	False	Total No. of Runs
1	113	39	92	439	822	246	126	1,877
2	229	37	111	511	1,449	337	201	2,875
3	143	30	81	349	915	215	189	1,922
4	167	29	82	515	1,121	272	146	2,332
5	177	29	91	818	1,269	321	144	2,849
6	514	106	216	3,565	4,253	838	798	10,290
7	362	58	171	1,241	2,180	447	1,228	5,687
8	207	58	113	439	1,080	283	211	2,391
9	97	42	89	305	870	253	123	1,779
10	133	19	51	662	813	297	126	2,101
11	118	26	61	522	596	228	57	1,608
City Total	2,260	473	1,158	9,366	15,368	3,737	3,349	35,711
Outside City	3	•	2	7	15	21	5	53
Grand Total	2,263	473	1,160	9,373	15,383	3,758	3,354	35,764

Ward	This Year's Fire Dollar Losses	Last Year's Fire Dollar Losses	Difference %
1	355,850	428,426	-16.9
2	1,153,214	1,048,335	10.0
3	796,873	992,126	-19.6
4	1,310,812	1,362,559	- 3.7
5	1,151,592	522,706	120.3
6	6,063,051	3,525,321	71.9
7	2,952,473	906,937	225.5
8	1,524,474	1,117,979	36.3
9	504,815	462,348	9.1
10	482,265	582,769	-17.2
11	516,784	381,186	35.5
City Total	16,812,203	11,330,692	48.3
Outside City	1,000	2,300	-56.5
Grand Total	16,813,203	11,332,992	48.3

Property Classification	Cooking Equipment	Electrical Distribution Items	Heat Equipment	Appliances/ Home Articles	Light Equipment	Other Electrical/ Mechanical	Smokers' Articles	Open Flame	Miscellaneous	Exposure	Total Number of Incidents	Dollar Loss
Residential:												
Detached, Semi-detached Dwelling	160	38	61	21	21	8	68	65	44	61	547	2,518,700
Attached Dwelling	22	3	1	5	•	•	14	9	7	15	76	996,590
Rooming, Boarding, Lodging House, Group Home	7	5	4	2	6	•	40	9	24	1	98	433,608
Multi-Unit Dwelling	181	41	15	10	13	10	274	55	102	16	717	2,368,835
Dual Purpose Dwelling - Residential with Business	20	7	4	•	2	•	11	8	11	12	75	624,938
Mobile Home	•	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	2	11,500
Residential - Other	4	4	•	•	•	2	16	8	30	35	99	475,214
Residential - Unclassified	1	2	1	•	•	2	6	4	5	6	27	33,446
Residential - Total	395	102	86	38	42	22	429	158	223	146	1,641	7,462,831
Assembly:												
Theatre, Auditorium	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	1	2	•	8	121,305
Museum, Art Gallery, Library	•	•	•	•	•	•	1	•	•	•	1	50
Recreation/Sports Facility	3	3	4	1	1	1	4	•	6	•	23	193,050
Education Facility	•	5	•	•	2	1	8	4	11	1	32	94,951
Religious Facility	•	2	•	•	•	•	•	3	2	1	8	64,796
Assembly - Unclassified	•	1	•	•	1	1	•	2	2	2	9	27,610
Assembly - Total	3	11	4	1	4	3	18	10	23	4	81	501,762

Property Classification	Cooking Equipment	Electrical Distribution Items	Heat Equipment	Appliances/ Home Articles	Light Equipment	Other Electrical/ Mechanical	Smokers' Articles	Open Flame	Miscellaneous	Exposure	Total Number of Incidents	Dollar Loss
Institutions:												
Medical Facility	5	7	1	2	•	3	15	1	4	•	38	57,114
Legislative or Court Facility	•	•	•	•	•	•	3	•	•	•	3	205
Institutional - Unclassified	1	1	•	•	•	•	1	•	•	•	3	100
Institutions - Total	6	8	1	2	•	3	19	1	4	•	44	57,419
Commercial I:												
Food, Beverage Sales	8	5	[illegible]	1	•	•	5	•	3	2	27	105,590
Furniture, Appliance Sales and Service	•	1	•	•	•	•	2	1	•	•	4	1,700
Hardware, Building Supplies	•	•	1	•	•	1	1	1	2	•	6	217,571
Textiles, Wearing Apparel Sales	1	1	2	•	2	•	4	•	6	5	21	567,290
Vehicle Sales/Service	•	4	1	1	1	2	2	5	2	3	21	113,521
Department, Catalogue, Variety Store	•	2	1	•	2	•	4	•	3	•	12	14,981
Specialty Sales/Service	•	2	2	5	2	3	9	1	9	4	37	1,502,132
Utilities	•	9	•	•	•	•	1	•	1	•	11	326,511
Commercial I - Total	9	24	10	7	7	6	28	8	26	14	139	2,849,296

Property Classification	Cooking Equipment	Electrical Distribution Items	Heat Equipment	Appliances/ Home Articles	Light Equipment	Other Electrical/ Mechanical	Smokers' Articles	Open Flame	Miscellaneous	Exposure	Total Number of Incidents	Dollar Loss
Commercial II:												
Hotel, Motel, Lodge, Inn	5	4	3	2	1	4	21	2	4	•	46	25,947
Food, Beverages, Tobacco, etc.	36	10	6	4	•	5	11	3	9	5	89	1,916,803
Business or Personal Services	•	2	2	•	1	•	2	1	4	•	12	2,026
Office Facility	1	18	2	1	3	8	19	8	10	2	72	1,098,502
Transportation Facility	•	8	•	•	•	6	74	•	4	1	93	9,649
Communications Facility	•	•	•	•	•	1	•	•	•	•	1	500
Commercial - Unclassified	1	8	1	•	•	•	8	4	4	4	30	209,040
Commercial II - Total	43	50	14	7	5	24	135	18	35	12	343	3,262,467
Manufacturing/Processing:												
Chemical, Petroleum, Paint, Plastic Products	•	1	1	•	•	1	•	•	•	2	5	436,000
Agricultural Products - Food, Beverages, Tobacco, etc.	•	•	•	•	•	5	•	1	1	1	8	205,116
Textiles, Clothing, Leather Goods	•	3	1	1	•	1	3	1	1	•	11	87,551
Wood, Furniture, Paper Products, Printing	•	1	•	•	1	4	3	2	3	•	14	26,008
Vehicles	•	1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1	125,000
Other Metal, Electrical or Miscellaneous Products	1	2	1	•	•	4	•	1	•	2	11	11,823
Manufacturing/Processing - Unclassified	•	•	4	•	•	3	2	4	2	•	15	20,958
Manufacturing/Processing - Total	1	8	7	1	1	18	8	9	7	5	65	912,456

Property Classification	Cooking Equipment	Electrical Distribution Items	Heat Equipment	Appliances Home Articles	Light Equipment	Other Electrical/ Mechanical	Smokers' Articles	Open Flame	Miscellaneous	Exposure	Total Number of Incidents	Dollar Loss
Warehouse and Storage:												
Warehouse	•	•	•	•	•	1	2	4	•	•	7	2,981
Cryogenic or Pressure Storage Facility	1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1	200
Cold Storage	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1	•	1	1
Open (Outdoor) Storage	•	1	•	•	•	•	1	1	1	•	4	32,290
Other Storage Facilities	•	•	2	•	•	1	1	1	•	1	6	123,020
Warehouse and Storage - Total	1	1	2	•	•	2	4	6	2	1	19	158,492
Miscellaneous Structure/Property:												
Miscellaneous Structure/Property	•	12	•	•	1	•	43	18	25	11	110	156,580
Miscellaneous Property	2	•	•	•	•	•	6	2	4	2	16	4,209
Miscellaneous Structure/Property - Total	2	12	•	•	1	•	49	20	29	13	126	160,789
Vehicles:												
Road Vehicles	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	433	42	475	997,530
Rail Vehicles	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	28	•	28	4,656
Water Craft	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3	•	3	416,100
Miscellaneous or Specialty Vehicles	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	9	1	10	29,405
Vehicles - Total	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	473	43	516	1,447,691
Grand Total	460	216	124	56	60	78	690	230	822	238	2,974	16,813,203

Director of Administration, Jim Sordi.

Payroll Clerk Craig Hewitt uses one of the Department's 15 personal computers.

The 12 members of this division, who are dispersed throughout the Department, (staff work out of City Hall, the Fire Academy, and the Adelaide Street Fire Station), play a major role in the day-to-day operation of the TFD.

Working with Directors and Platoon Chiefs, Administration personnel manage an operating budget that exceeded $66 million in 1987. They also provide much-needed secretarial and clerical support to command officers, process payroll and personnel paperwork, oversee the accounting of stores' operations, and assume many head office functions, including mail delivery and telephone reception.

Director Jim Sordi is responsible for interpreting and disseminating administrative policy and systems and procedures on a Department-wide basis. He also undertakes special surveys and projects. In 1987, for example, he chaired a committee responsible for developing a smoking control policy for the Department. The Committee included representatives from Local 79 and Local 113, management, and the Department Doctor. Following a survey of all personnel, a policy for limiting smoking in the workplace was developed for implementation in 1988.

In all, 79 staff retired and 60 recruits were hired during 1987, generating a great deal of work for the group. Increasingly, the Department's administrative workload is being processed using computers. During the 1984 - 1987 period, the Department acquired 15 personal computers and three mainframe-only terminals.

Reflecting the growing importance and widespread application of computer technology throughout the Department, the Administration Division has been given responsibility for installing computer hardware, co-ordinating the development of software, and training personnel in its use. Prior to 1987, these functions were handled by the Fire Planning and Operations Research Division.

A Computer Systems Group, consisting of representatives from each division, has been formed to assist the Director of Administration in efforts to maximize the application of computer technology throughout the Department. Members of the Systems Group also sit on committees that review the application of computers on a Corporation-wide basis.

A new computerized reporting system is making it much easier to track departmental attendance, and plans are underway to computerize the Department's stores' inventory control process and fleet maintenance records. A computerized personnel data base is also being established.

Firefighters' vital statistics will also be stored on a computer as part of a new clothing policy that takes effect in 1988. Following a review by a committee including administrative personnel, union representatives and the Department's Safety Officer, it was decided that in

Cheri McLaughlin fields an incoming call. Telephone reception is just one of many head office support functions facilitated by Administration Division staff.

Stores Accounting Clerk, Tony Van Krieken, reviews a Datamex printout.

Director Jim Sordi and Senior Accounting Clerk, Bill Norlock, review the Department's $66 million-plus 1987 budget.

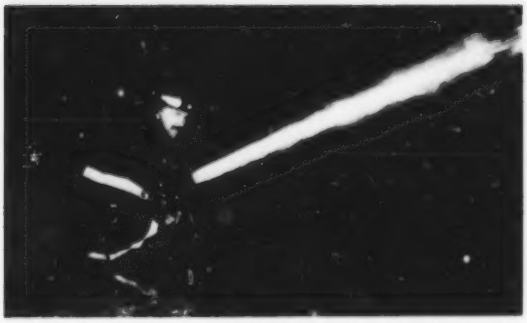
future, firefighters will "buy" clothing using a point system. A tailor has been contracted to measure all uniformed personnel in order to establish a computer data file. In addition to reviewing issuing policy, the committee also makes recommendations on the purchasing and testing of clothing.

Equal Opportunity Program

Administration staff reviewed the Department's career outreach strategy during 1987, an aspect of ongoing efforts to increase the number of women and visible minority firefighters.

The Director of Administration, who is also the Department's senior equal opportunity representative, along with departmental equal opportunity representatives Marion Lagowski and Tony Van Krieken, jointly prepared the Department's Equal Opportunity Goals and Timetables for the years 1988-1991.

Medical Division Director, Doctor J. Terence Bates.



Conditioning and stamina are crucial, given the physically demanding nature of the firefighter's job.

Ensuring that firefighters are prepared for the physical and emotional demands of their profession is just one of many responsibilities assigned to the team of skilled specialists who staff the Department's Medical Division.

Under the direction of Doctor J. Terence Bates, the Division provides both preventative and therapeutic programs that enhance firefighters' physical and mental well-being, and reduce the possibility of injuries and other job-related health problems.

Keeping firefighters fit, healthy and productive is a considerable challenge for Dr. Bates and his staff, which includes Safety Officer George Coppin, and Fitness Co-ordinator Terry Buckley. It's true that improvements in training and technology have contributed significantly to firefighters' welfare. It is also the case that firefighters are assuming more responsibility for maintaining their own health by not smoking, by eating well, and by exercising regularly. However, the stressful and sometimes hazardous nature of the profession makes it impossible to totally avoid or eliminate work-related injuries and stress.

At the heart of the Division's medical program is the daily clinic held at the Fire Academy. Here firefighters receive initial or ongoing assessment and treatment for illness or injury, which may or may not be job-related. In addition to providing a means of monitoring firefighters' medical problems and concerns, clinic visits also afford Dr. Bates the opportunity to counsel firefighters on personal and family problems and retirement planning.

Responding to Critical Incident Stress

Much of the substance abuse, marital discord and severe depression experienced by firefighters is triggered by a traumatic, work-related incident. Critical Incident Stress, as this phenomenon is known, most often affects firefighters who have had a close call with death or serious injury, or who have witnessed the death of a colleague or child, or fire fatalities.

Along with representatives of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs and Local 113 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Medical Division personnel have been working to develop a co-ordinated and effective strategy to respond to the medical problems and emotional fallout associated with C.I.S.

Medical Division staff and Department management also support the Employee Assistance Program, a confidential counselling service for firefighters and their families operated on a volunteer basis by Local 113 members. These referral consultants, as they are known, offer concerned and non-judgemental support, directing those who need professional help to the most appropriate agency or health professional. Firefighters themselves, these consultants understand the unique strains and pressures that come with the profession, and their effects on family and loved ones.

Back injuries common among firefighters

In 1987, the Clinic recorded an estimated 1,745 visits, as compared to 1,535 visits during 1986. Common

Photo by Jocelyne Richards, City of Toronto Archives

Two recruits work up a sweat, while Fitness Co-ordinator Terry Buckley monitors their performance.

complaints were back-related injuries (often the result of having lifted heavy equipment and objects), breaks and sprains resulting from falls, and leg injuries (mostly pulled muscles and tendons), caused, for the most part, when mounting and dismounting apparatus.

Days lost as a result of job-related injuries totalled 1,144 in 1987, up from 860 days lost in 1986. Days lost due to illness in 1987 totalled 13,655, which was also more than in 1986, when 8,825 "sick days" were recorded.

Respiratory ailments resulting from the inhalation of smoke and toxic fumes, once a leading category of illness among firefighters, are much less prevalent today. The reduction of this work-related risk can be traced to the 1984 introduction of the Mandatory Mask Policy that requires all firefighters to wear self-contained breathing apparatus at the scene of an emergency.

Whenever firefighters are exposed to hazardous materials, or think they have been exposed, they must complete an exposure report. This report is noted on a firefighter's medical chart, in case symptoms develop and follow-up treatment is required. This documentation of possible exposure to a hazardous material is an important precautionary measure that also provides Medical staff with an information bank for treatment reference.

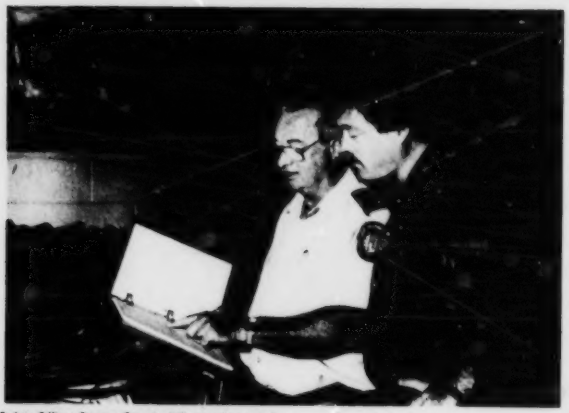
Emphasis on awareness and education

Believing that prevention is preferable to treatment, Dr. Bates and his staff spend considerable time lecturing recruits and firefighters on matters relating to health, fitness and workplace safety.

Firefighters' concerns over the possibility of being exposed to communicable diseases such as AIDS and hepatitis B were addressed with the assistance of a video prepared by the International Association of Fire Fighters and by guest speakers. These sessions and visits to the halls provided opportunities for firefighters to voice their fears and hear first hand from experts about the marginal health risks associated with performing CPR. (Ventilators are disinfected after each use and sterilized mannequins are used during CPR training to minimize firefighters' possible exposure to infections.)

Safety Officer's role and responsibilities

The Department has always placed a premium on firefighters' safety, both at the scene of an emergency, and in the halls. A safety officer has been associated with the Medical Division since its formation in 1978. The current safety officer, George Coppin, is involved in many facets of recruit and in-service training. Firefighters and support personnel also receive ongoing accident-



Safety Officer George Coppin, left, examines service log for self-contained breathing apparatus.

Strength, agility, endurance, manual co-ordination and dexterity — a firefighter must possess all these attributes, in addition to mental toughness.

prevention advice through safety bulletins. Safety Officer Coppin reviews all exposure and injury reports, making recommendations, where necessary, for improving equipment and emergency-response techniques. He frequently contacts suppliers of protective clothing to discuss problems and recommendations arising from his investigations.

Trouble-shooting existing and possible job-related hazards and keeping up to date on new safety procedures are only two of Safety Officer Coppin's responsibilities. He also chairs the Department's Occupational Health and Safety Policy Committee, a group consisting of command officers and union representatives, who meet regularly to evaluate concerns and co-ordinate actions related to job safety. The Safety Officer is also a member of the Workplace Hazardous Materials Committee and the Employee Assistance Program Committee. During 1987, Safety Officer Coppin helped draft the departmental policy concerning smoking in the workplace.

Fitness stressed throughout career

Firefighters are encouraged to pursue a healthy lifestyle throughout their careers. In fact, would-be recruits are told to participate in a supervised exercise and training program, including aerobics classes, to prepare for the Department's fitness assessment and physical abilities tests.

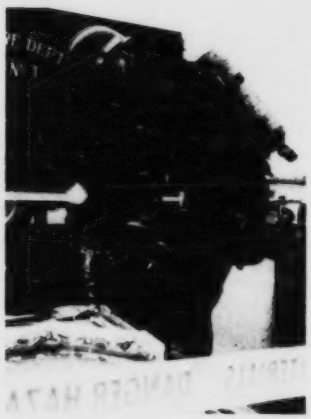
Candidates for the position of probationary firefighter who successfully undergo the Department's careful screening process find that the emphasis on physical fitness intensifies once they are enrolled at the Fire Academy. Recruit classes are put through daily, 45-minute workouts over a five-week period. Led by Fitness Co-ordinator Terry Buckley, these exercise sessions include running, circuit training, aerobics, stair climbing and volleyball.

Derived from an in-depth analysis of real-life working conditions, these exercises are designed to improve recruits' strength, agility, endurance, co-ordination, manual dexterity, and balance.

The physical demands of the job — extreme exertion, heavy equipment and clothing, lack of warm-up time, long hours of concentrated effort, and exposure to extreme temperatures and toxic environments — make the firefighter's conditioning and endurance critical.

Photo by Jocelyne Richards. City of Toronto Archives.

Voluntary check-ups which measure respiratory capacity, among other things, are popular with health-conscious firefighters.



Protecting firefighters from exposure to hazardous materials, and treating illnesses resulting from such incidents is a serious concern.

Recruits also receive lectures on important health issues, such as back care, nutrition, on-the-job safety, and heart and lung disease.

Fitness appraisals offered

Fitness appraisals and individualized fitness programs are available to all firefighters. Exercise equipment in all 27 firehalls, including rowing machines purchased with the aid of a Wintario grant, enable firefighters to tailor fitness programs to suit their specific needs.

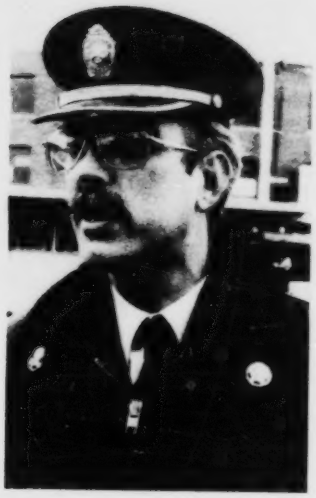
Firefighters are also encouraged to participate in both competitive and non-competitive events during their off-duty hours. In 1987, TFD personnel participated in the Corporate Challenge Run, the CN Tower Charity Climb, the Police-Firefighter 8-kilometre Challenge, and the third annual Emergency Services 911 Run, hosted by the Department. A record number of runners took part in the 9.11-kilometre race, and the associated five-kilometre "Predict Your Time" fun run, both of which were held October 18 in Brule Park. Turnout was also excellent for a board sailing event organized by the Department's Fitness Co-ordinator. Activities such as these introduce firefighters to new challenges and help stimulate their interest in keeping fit.

Dozens of firefighters have taken advantage of the voluntary health checks which measure grip strength, flexibility, percentage of body fat, respiratory capacity and cardiovascular endurance.

The importance of cardiovascular fitness is emphasized by Medical staff, particularly since a study conducted by Dr. Bates found a significantly higher mortality rate among firefighters, resulting from coronary artery disease, as compared to an adjusted City of Toronto population. Dr. Bates' findings were published in the Journal of Occupational Medicine, Volume 29, No. 2, February, 1987.

Rehab program for heart-attack sufferers

During 1987, firefighters who had experienced cardiac problems participated in a new rehabilitation program, developed to enable them to return to active duty. Prior to their enrollment in the program, which included customized exercises, nutritional guidance and health counselling, they received an exhaustive evaluation by their cardiologists. This review determined the individual's fitness and susceptibility to factors known to contribute to heart attacks, such as high blood pressure and cholesterol levels, alcohol and cigarette consumption, amount of body fat, etc. Medical records were also carefully examined by Doctor Bates and his staff, who also consulted with the firefighters' physicians. Of the 11 firefighters whose test results proved suitable for their participation in the rehab program, six have returned to active duty.



Director of Planning and Research, Rem Gaede.

Containing and cleaning up muriatic acid spilled from a garbage truck

What a firefighter doesn't know can be fatal, both to him/herself and to the people whose lives depend on his/her actions. That is why ongoing training and testing is such a high priority with the Department. Preparing firefighters for any eventuality doesn't end with continuing education.

Fire Planning and Operations Research staff use the latest computer technology, their considerable analytical skills, and some old-fashioned legwork to provide their firefighting colleagues with the most current and accurate information possible, to help make their tasks easier and safer.

This information is culled from a variety of sources. Emergency response statistics and incident accounts provide many valuable lessons. Expertise is also gained from discussions with other emergency-response services.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure

When you're in the business of saving lives and risking your own, this saying takes on added significance.

At the Toronto Fire Department, this age-old truism, applied with the help of computer technology, forms the basis of an innovative program that is already a proven life and property saver.

The P.I.P. program, (short for Pre-fire Inspection and Planning), gathers information about the risk characteristics of larger buildings and facilities for use in the event of a fire, chemical spill or other emergency.

Specially-trained crews of firefighters conduct on-site inspections to determine the location of exits, sleeping areas, and places where potentially hazardous materials are stored. Floor plans are drawn up, including these and similar crucial details. These plans are made available to firefighters responding to an emergency through microfiche readers in mobile command vehicles.

Thanks to P.I.P., firefighters no longer have to enter a building blind; they go in forewarned, and as a result, are less likely to suffer injury or have difficulty locating victims.

During P.I.P. inspections, buildings are also surveyed for any visible fire hazards and for proper maintenance of fire protection equipment and systems. Defective situations are brought to the attention of those responsible, who in turn, have to take appropriate corrective action, as outlined under the provisions of the Ontario Fire Code.

Between May and November of 1987, 531 commercial properties and high-rise buildings were inspected by crews from seven apparatus. More than 9,000 floor plans have been created by P.I.P. crews since the program's inception.

Processing data collected by P.I.P. crews and developing related floor plans is considerably easier and faster since the Department purchased a computer-aided graphics system. The Intergraph "Interact 32C" work station was chosen following an 18-month evaluation. This twin-screen, colour graphics unit is also used to assist the Apparatus and Maintenance Division with mechanical drawings for new equipment. The ability to network with other City computers has already proven valuable in areas such as mapping.

Division staff also conduct familiarization tours of large buildings and transportation facilities for area firefighting personnel. Toronto Island Airport and East End subway stations were visited during 1987.

Fire and ambulance personnel prepare victims of the November 10 aircraft crash simulation for helicopter transfer to local hospitals.

Emergency response personnel were tested on their ability to locate crash victims during the Island Airport exercise.

While there is no substitute for real-life experience, simulations have proven effective as a means of testing the readiness of men and machines. Divisional staff, with input from their colleagues in Training, helped organize two large-scale, multi-agency exercises during 1987.

On May 24, a train derailment and fire was staged in tunnels between Woodbine and Coxwell subway stations. On November 10, a lifelike aircraft crash was conducted at Toronto Island Airport. The first simulation of its kind at this location, it proved extremely enlightening, adding to the understanding of the Toronto Fire Department's working relationship with the Island Airport Fire Department, and of the logistics involved in transporting emergency vehicles from the mainland.

Plans are underway for a major simulation involving an airliner and GO train, to be conducted in 1989 with the Etobicoke Fire Department.

Liaison, information-sharing role

Representing the Department, and sometimes the Canadian fire service, on a variety of committees and planning groups, is another task undertaken by Division staff.

Extensive meetings have been held with representatives of the Federal Government, the RCMP and other emergency-response agencies, to prepare for the Economic Summit, being held in Toronto in June of 1988.

Organizing a public alerting and notification system for use during natural or man-made disasters in the Metropolitan Toronto area is an ongoing project. Working with Metro police, Division staff provide input on behalf of area fire services.

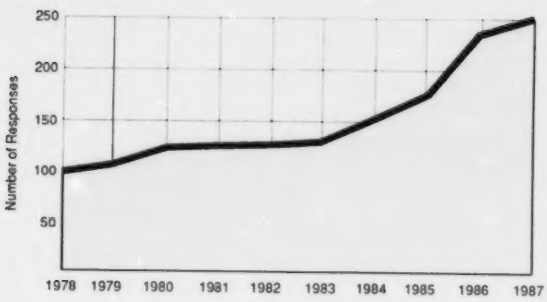
Staff are also assisting the National Research Council in Ottawa to revise parts three and five of the National Fire Code of Canada. These revisions will bring the 1990 NFC into line with changes that have occurred in recent years, especially with regard to legislation introduced by various Federal agencies to control the transportation and use of hazardous materials in the workplace.

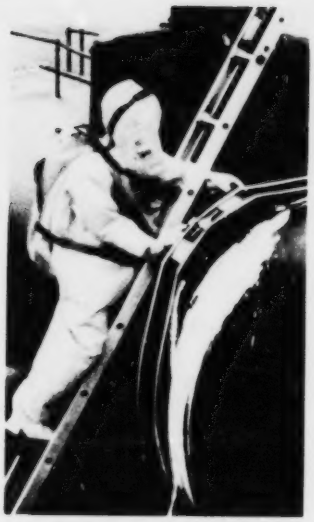
Another ongoing contact is with the Propane Gas Association of Canada. There has been a tremendous increase in the number of incidents involving propane barbecues. The Department is working with the industry to produce a number of public safety campaigns to help address this area of concern.

Division staff are also participating in an emergency planning project being established by industries in the "Junction Triangle" neighbourhood in Toronto's West End. The fact that area industries approached the Department and asked for its assistance in preparing a plan is encouraging, it is also an example of the Canadian Chemical Producers Association's new Community Awareness and Emergency Response program in action.

Through these and similar contacts, Division staff have an opportunity to compare ideas and concerns with community groups, business leaders, and most importantly, representatives of other emergency-response agencies. While lecturing at the Ontario Fire Chiefs' convention in Niagara Falls and at the Canadian Fire Chiefs' convention in Edmonton, TFD representatives had an opportunity to "compare notes" with their peers from across Canada.

TFD Hazardous Materials Responses





A firefighter wearing protective PVC encapsulating suit patches a punctured tanker during a training exercise at the Fire Academy.

A mid-year decision to shift some of the increasing workload associated with hazardous materials to the crew of Aerial 15 (they man the Department's Hazard-1 hazardous materials response unit), necessitated reworking the resources available at Station 15. A hazardous materials office and a fitness centre were created in space previously utilized by the ambulance service.

Ensuring firefighters are properly decontaminated following incidents involving hazardous materials is a concern, given the possible effects of repeated exposure to toxic chemicals. Firefighters who took part in the 1986 Moore Park chemical spill simulation helped design equipment that will be used in future decontaminations. This new equipment will shortly be issued to four apparatus.

A total of 252 incidents involving hazardous materials occurred in 1987, up from 207 recorded during 1986. Calls of this nature have skyrocketed in recent years, reflecting the more widespread use of chemicals in our daily lives. As the following breakdown indicates, propane leaks fueling fires and explosions are the second most common cause of hazardous materials calls.

1987 Hazardous Materials Incident Breakdown:

85 spills and leaks involving chemicals;
72 propane leaks;
70 fires involving hazardous materials;
14 explosions;
5 incidents involving chemical fumes;
5 incidents involving explosives;
1 radioactive materials emergency

The year's most serious and spectacular hazardous materials emergency occurred June 17 when a tanker loading Toluene and Naphtha on Commissioners Street exploded, killing the truck driver. A quickly-sounded second alarm and an aggressive foam attack contained the resulting blaze, saving a number of nearby storage tanks which were filled with flammable liquids.

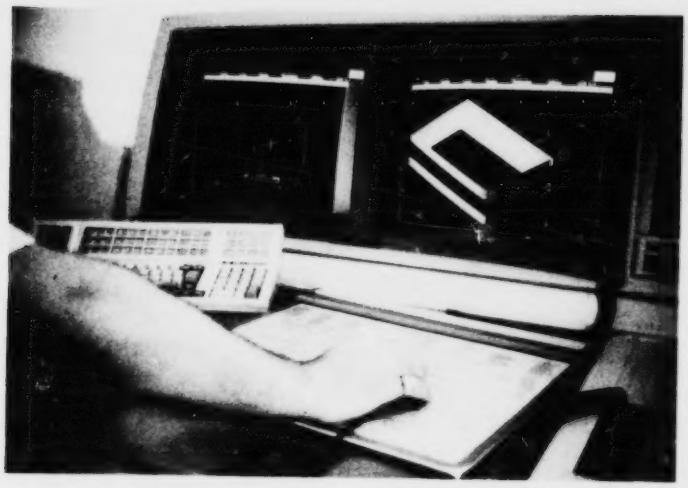
Planning and Research staff manage a wide range of "low-tech" and "high-tech" information support systems.

Updating the Street Map Book, used by dispatchers and fire crews to determine the fastest route to the scene of an emergency, is one of the Division's most important and labour-intensive tasks. A total of 121 map pages were revised during 1987, reflecting the City's development and changes in traffic patterns and road layouts.

Much of the information crucial to the effective operation of the TFD — plans of the City's water supply system, floor plans of larger buildings — is recorded on microfiche (film bearing a micro-photograph of a document).

Command vehicles and Hazard 1, the Department's hazardous materials response unit, are equipped with microfiche readers and a complete set of fiche. Readers were installed in all seven district chief vehicles during 1987.

Approximately 75 fiche, documenting a variety of subjects, were added to the Department's reference library. Many others were expanded and updated. Colour fiche was used for the first time



Two views of the Department's innovative computer-aided work station. Firefighter Tim McCarron uses a mouse to draw a detailed floor plan which will later be transferred to microfiche for reference in the event of an emergency. Close-up of the terminal's oversized screens indicates the drafting capabilities of this high-tech equipment.

during a complete overhaul of the Department's water supply fiche.

Creating a "user-friendly" environment

Responsibility for developing and maintaining computer systems used Department-wide was transferred from Planning and Research to Administration part way through 1987. Energies previously expended on this task are being redirected to develop computer systems for use within the Division.

To maximize the use and benefits of computer technology within the Department, Division staff presented weekly lectures to senior personnel over a four-month period at the Fire Academy. Part of the Department's trend-setting Officers' Development Program, the sessions were designed to familiarize command personnel with hardware and software features and field uses.

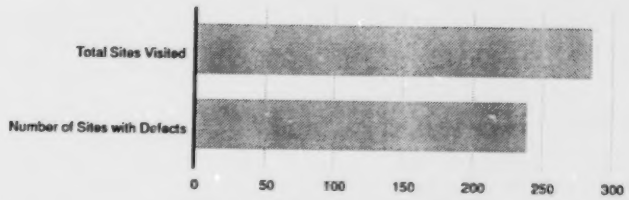
Another in-house training program, developed and presented by Division staff with input from chiefs and their aides, resulted in the production of a guidelines manual which assists officers to complete incident response reports. The manual's introduction has improved the accuracy and consistency of reports.

Providing an accurate and comprehensive data base for the Department's Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system is largely the responsibility of Planning and Research, an important task that requires extensive contacts with other City and Metro departments.

Extensive testing of the CAD system revealed a number of inconsistencies in the data bases used by other City departments. Identifying and correcting these inconsistencies has enhanced computing capabilities throughout the civic service.

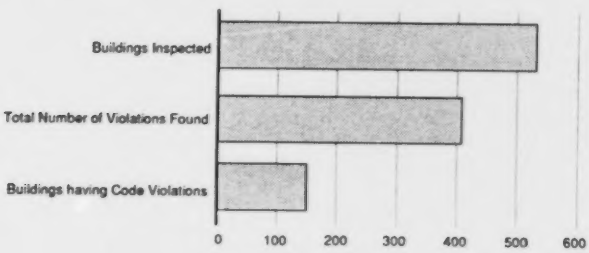
Director of Fire Prevention, Jack McFadden.

Safety Checks for Assembly Occupancies 1987



Most common defects found, in order of frequency:
- *blocked exits*
- *locked exits*
- *overcrowding*
- *faulty fire alarms*

Pre-Fire Inspection and Planning Program (P.I.P.) 1987



While every member of the Department is committed to preventing fires, Fire Prevention staff expend *all* of their energies identifying and rectifying possible fire hazards, and teaching citizens of all ages how to be safe from fire.

The Division consists of two sections: Fire Prevention and Information. Fire Prevention is responsible for Ontario Fire Code inspections, Ontario Building Code inspections (when requested by the City's Commissioner of Buildings and Inspections), staff training as it pertains to fire prevention, and the administration of fire records. The Information Section is responsible for public relations and education, media relations, and photographing major incidents and departmental events.

Through the enforcement of the Ontario Fire Code, fire incidences can be significantly reduced and property losses minimized. Fire inspectors ensure that all Fire Code violations are corrected. In most cases, building owners rectify code violations after receiving a "defect notice" from an inspector. However, it is sometimes necessary to utilize the legal process to ensure the safety of occupants. In 1987, $39,000 in original fines were levied in 62 code violation cases.

Occupant Safety Check

The Division's Occupant Safety Check Program involves inspections by the District Chiefs of assembly-type buildings — places where people regularly gather, such as churches, movie theatres and bars. With the owner's or manager's co-operation, premises are inspected during peak operating periods, to determine possible overcrowding and locate unsafe conditions, including inoperative fire alarm panels and locked or blocked exits. When a fire hazard is noted, the owner or most responsible person available is made aware of the problem and informed of the necessary corrective action. In most cases, this notification is all that is required to have the problem rectified. If, however, upon re-inspection violations remain, a fire prevention inspector is notified and he conducts a follow-up inquiry. As a last resort, charges may be sworn under the Ontario Fire Code.

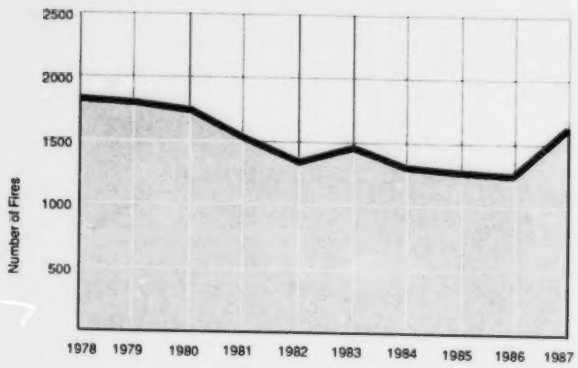
Retrofit inspections for high-risk buildings

Introduced in 1983 and expanded in 1987 to include health care facilities, the retrofit component of the Division's inspection program is designed to ensure lodging and rooming houses and assembly-type occupancies meet minimum life-safety standards. Retrofit inspections specifically address means of egress, fire alarm and detection systems, fire suppression systems, and means of containing smoke and fire. These inspections cover buildings erected prior to 1974. To date, approximately 70 percent of the City's 615 licensed rooming houses have been brought up to standard through the retrofit process.

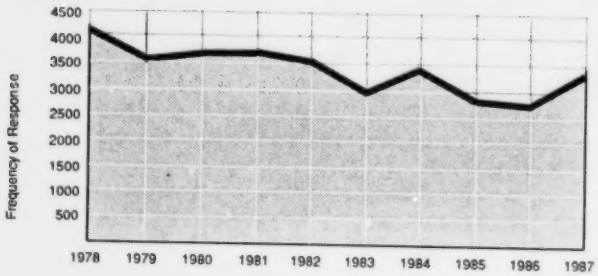
P.I.P. Program

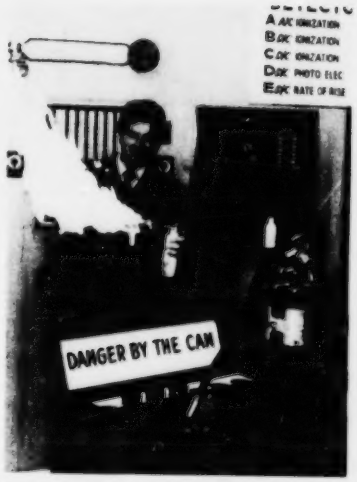
The Department's Pre-Fire Inspection and Planning (P.I.P) Program continues to forewarn firefighters by providing them with accurate and detailed information concerning the structural layout of major buildings, noting access problems, occupancy characteristics and potentially hazardous conditions. This Program

Residential Fires 1978 - 1987



False Alarms (Malicious) 1978-1987





Fire Prevention Officer John Crawford demonstrates the potentially deadly mixture of an open flame and aerosol spray.

familiarizes firefighters with the layout of large buildings in their running district. P.I.P. also benefits building owners. By rectifying fire hazards and code violations identified during inspections, owners can greatly reduce the risk of fire. In 1987, 28 specially-trained firefighters from seven firehalls inspected 531 buildings, forwarding thousands of floor plans to the Planning and Research Division for transfer to microfiche.

Education seminars for adults

Fire Prevention staff staged 126 seminars in 1987, attracting 10,833 participants. Topics covered included fire alarm systems, fire safety planning, high-rise building fires, sprinkler and standpipe systems, portable fire extinguishers, and the role of building management in the event of a fire. Presentations and topics were geared for groups who could be involved with the operation or maintenance of fire protection systems, or with special evacuation procedures. Staff from hospitals, nursing homes and correctional institutions were among the groups who attended. Others included representatives from tenant associations, Air Canada flight attendants, and Scout leaders.

Public awareness initiatives

Public education efforts during 1987 focused on three major safety themes:

- The importance of installing and maintaining smoke alarms;
- Encouraging residents to prepare an escape plan for use in the event of a fire or other emergency; and
- Making residents more aware of how to identify and correct common fire hazards around the home.

The Department's initiative to achieve the first objective, a public awareness campaign, included ads in transit shelters, wall posters and press releases. This campaign, which encouraged City residents to install a smoke alarm on every level of their home, is described on page 34.

An equally innovative approach was taken to achieve the second and third goals.

Plan Your Escape Kit

A Plan Your Escape Kit was developed by the Information Section to assist City residents in the event of a fire or other emergency. The kit, which was distributed free of charge through resource centres established in every City firehall and during a number of public events, included a home safety checklist which identified common fire hazards. Information on the proper installation and maintenance of smoke alarms was also included.

The wonders of the Fire Academy Museum are explained to an attentive audience.

Fire Safety School Program

The Department's Fire Safety School Program teaches primary grade schoolchildren what to do in case of fire, how and when to call the Fire Department, the need for smoke alarms, and the importance of preparing a fire escape plan. Children are also taught what to do if their clothes catch on fire (stop, drop and roll), and how to react in a fire emergency.

By teaching these fire safety principles at an early age, the Department hopes this knowledge will stay with the youngsters throughout their lives, and, ideally, that what they learn will be shared with their siblings and parents.

Thirty-five firefighters volunteered to convey these important fire safety messages to the City's schoolchildren. Following a one-day briefing by Information Section staff, these volunteers gave 20-minute talks at each of the schools visited. Following the formal portion of their presentation, the firefighters often spent additional hours fielding questions from the inquisitive youngsters. Whenever possible, fire vehicles were brought to the schools, causing considerable excitement amongst the children. The in-class presentations by firefighters were supplemented by a four-lesson teacher's guide that included a course outline, specific goals and instructions, and a variety of class activities related to fire safety that the teacher could choose from. Upon completion of all four lessons each student received a certificate.

Response from the children, teachers and principals was unanimously positive, as was the feedback from participating firefighters, who found the experience very gratifying.

Scout Career Awareness Course

Developed by the Information Section in consultation with Scouts Toronto, this course was designed to allow young men and women of high school age to "try on a level of their home, is described in an accompanying story.
sessions, which covered topics such as:

- the structure and organization of the Toronto Fire Department.
- use and handling of portable fire extinguishers.
- how to prepare yourself for a career with the Department.

Participants also toured the Communications Division and Number 1 Firehall.

Each student who completed the course received a certificate, and hopefully a better understanding and appreciation of the career opportunities available within the Department.

Open houses highlight of Kidsummer

Toronto Fire Department Day, August 12, proved to be a highlight of Kidsummer '87, a summer-long festival of free events geared to children under ten, organized by Toronto Life Magazine and CFRB radio.

The day's activities started with open houses at all 27 Toronto fire stations. Close to 1,500 children toured the halls and each was given a Fire Department activity book and balloon. Plan Your Escape brochures were provided to adults.

The biggest single attraction was an evening open house held at the Toronto Fire Academy. More than 500 children and adults attended.

Media Day antics: Toronto Sun reporter Jane Van Der Voort strikes a pose while her colleague, photographer Bill Sanford, captures the moment for posterity.

The eye never blinks: Chief Information Officer Bev Gilbert talks to CITY TV viewers during a live broadcast.

The captive audience was treated to demonstrations of firefighting techniques and a high-level rescue from atop the Academy. Visitors also had an opportunity to get an up-close look at firefighting vehicles and youngsters had a great time trying on helmets, boots and firecoats and playing with emergency vehicle air horns.

The standing-room-only crowd also received fire safety education via a brief lecture and viewing of the CBC Journal segment on "The Busiest Fire Station."

Public relations functions

The Information Section is at the centre of the many public events that involve the Department, co-ordinating the activities of other Fire Department divisions and dealing with event organizers, the public, and the media. Section staff frequently serve as spokespeople for the Department and as departmental representatives at a wide range of functions and community-oriented events.

In 1987, the Section, along with the Training Division, organized six Exemplary Service Medal investitures and two Fire Service Recognition days at the Toronto Fire Academy. All attracted large numbers of the public and were extensively covered by the media.

Ensuring both the public and the media properly understand the Department's actions and objectives is the motivation for much of the Section's information dissemination efforts. These include, among other things, staging education exhibits in various communities, participating in career days, and functioning as an information clearing house.

Media relations a high priority

Much of what the public knows about the Toronto Fire Department it has read in the newspapers, seen on television, or heard on the radio. Media support is crucial to the success of any fire safety education campaign undertaken by the Department, or whenever a need exists to convey information to the people.

In recognition of the importance of the working relationship with the City's press, the Department made extraordinary efforts in 1987 to ensure the media had access to accurate information as quickly as possible. Toronto's print and broadcast reporters have responded in kind, and have greatly assisted the Department whenever it has had a story to tell.

Media Training Day

In appreciation, the Information Section and Training Division, in conjunction with the International Association of Firefighters, Local 113, staged a Media Training Day at the Toronto Fire Academy.

Approximately 25 members of the media were given a chance to experience what it's like to be on the other side of the cameras. The day consisted of an audio-visual presentation and several talks regarding fire apparatus, communications,

Captain Babineau's widow, Georgeline, and Assistant Deputy Chief Joseph Underwood, pictured at the CN Tower Climb, which raised nearly $30,000 for the Hospital for Sick Children Capital Campaign.

Firefighter Winston Malcolm collects donations for the Canadian Children's Foundation.

firefighting operations, and advice on who the media should contact for information at the scene of an emergency. Participants were then instructed on how to wear protective firefighting equipment and how to use a self-contained breathing apparatus. Once fully clothed and protected, they then had an opportunity to experience first-hand the training a firefighter recruit receives. This learning opportunity involved climbing ladders, fighting a small, oil-fed fire, entering a smoke-filled building, riding in an aerial tower platform, and operating a pressurized, 65-mm hose (all under controlled conditions). Lunch, refreshments and presentations of certificates to the successful "graduates" rounded out the day's activities.

The event was viewed as a major success. Fire Department personnel and media representatives gained a new understanding of each other's functions and responsibilities; contacts were made, and existing relationships were strengthened. The day's events appeared prominently in many of the evening news broadcasts and next day's newspapers, providing invaluable and unanticipated favourable public exposure for the Department.

Charitable activities

Department personnel have a long tradition of volunteering their time and services for worthy causes, and 1987 was no exception. In December, 35 firefighters manned donation tables in downtown shopping centres on behalf of the Children's Celebrity Christmas Charity Drive. In one day, these Fire Department volunteers raised $8,431 for the Canadian Children's Foundation.

CN Tower Climb

Organized by the Information Section in conjunction with the Medical Division and Local 113, this year's CN Tower Climb attracted hundreds of firefighters, their families and friends. Their combined efforts raised $28,648.60, which was donated to the Hospital for Sick Children Capital Campaign in memory of Captain Donald Babineau, who died of injuries received during a training exercise. A room in the Hospital's Burn Unit will be named in Captain Babineau's honour.

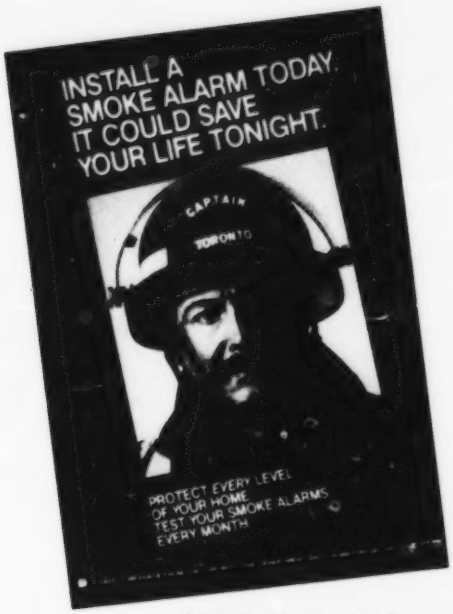
Smoke alarm awareness campaign

The Department launched a public awareness campaign in 1987 to encourage Torontonians to install at least one smoke alarm on each level of their home.

Colour posters, sponsored by Chubb Fire Security, showed a close-up photograph of a TFD captain in protective gear, under the headline:

"Install a smoke alarm today.
It could save your life tonight."

A cameraman gets an unusual perspective on the action during taping of the Seconds Can Save video.



Spreading the good word: Copies of this poster were distributed throughout the City and also appeared in transit shelters.

Free copies of the poster were distributed to Toronto-area schools, libraries, seniors' homes and clubs, residents and ratepayers' groups, health care facilities, and recreation centres operated by the City. Posters also appeared in transit shelters throughout the City.

A public relations support campaign emphasized the importance of the proper installation, testing and maintenance of smoke alarms.

The poster was created by the Information and Communication Services Division of the Department of the City Clerk.

Seconds Can Save Program

Nathan Phillips' Square, in front of Toronto City Hall, is a favourite haunt of downtown office workers looking for a relaxing place to sunbathe while enjoying a brown-bag lunch. The normally tranquil scene was transformed in July of 1987 when the Toronto Fire Department, assisted by police and ambulance personnel, staged a mock accident to launch the Seconds Can Save public awareness program.

The realistic accident on the Square, which was covered extensively by the Toronto print and broadcast media, illustrated the worse case scenario, when motorists fail to pull their vehicles to the right and stop when approached by emergency vehicles.

In addition to educating motorists on how to respond when they hear emergency sirens and see flashing red lights, the campaign also explained how proper actions by motorists can reduce the response time of emergency vehicles in life-threatening situations, and help limit the number of accidents involving emergency vehicles.

The Seconds Can Save Program is organized by the Emergency Vehicles Awareness Committee, a group which includes representatives of the Toronto Fire Department's Information Section, the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force's Public Affairs Office, and the Metro Ambulance Service's Special Services Division.

Support for the Seconds Can Save campaign was provided by a number of media agencies and volunteers. Members of the West Toronto Kiwanis Club contributed money and services, CITY TV produced a 15-minute video for broadcast and presentation, the Toronto Star provided creative assistance and ran full-page advertisements at reduced rates, and Mediacom Inc. provided, at cost, more than 100 posters for display in backlit transit shelters.

Residential (Get Alarmed Program) Inspections

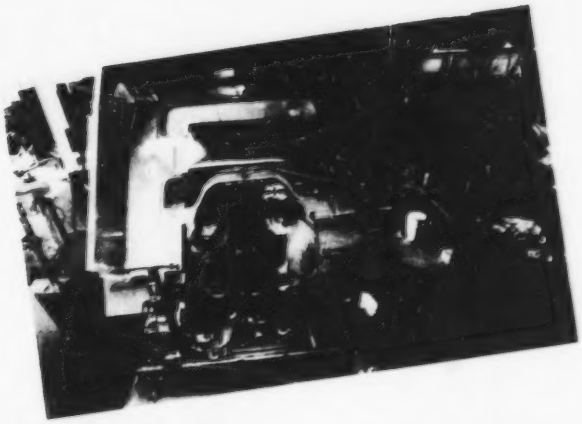
Type	Number
Total calls made	2,181
Not home	1,012
Refused admittance	55
Total number of inspections made	1,114
Rubbish not properly taken care of	8
Flammable liquids not properly stored	8
Defective chimney	3
Defective stove/furnace/smoke pipes	3
Combustibles too close to stove/furnace/smoke pipes	122
Fuse box overfused	134
Unsafe outlet box/switch box/wiring	27
Extension cord wiring excessive/defective	28
Smoke alarms -	
Occupancies with none	510
Occupancies with one	629

Commercial and Industrial Inspections

Type	Number
Routine	35
Complaint	1,108
Special	1,853
Building referral	720
Re-inspection	7,164
Fire drill	26
Exhibits checked	0
Miscellaneous call	5,206
P.I.P. Re-inspection	238
Matters referred to other departments	482
Prosecutions	72

Fire Protection Equipment Installed	Number
Elevators (conversions)	0
Extinguishers	647
Fire alarm and detection systems	66
Standpipes	1
Sprinklers	2
Fixed extinguishing systems	12
Voice communications	1

Apparatus and Maintenance Division Director, William Marshall.



A mechanic repairs one of the Department's vehicles.

One of the Division's "bright sparks."

The workmanship evident in the Division's garage, body and carpentry shops is of the highest standard — it has to be. When you're in the business of saving lives and risking your own, there's no room for mechanical breakdown or equipment failure.

The mechanics, welders, carpenters and body shop personnel who service a growing fleet of increasingly sophisticated firefighting apparatus and support vehicles, and help maintain 27 fire halls, make a crucial behind-the-scenes contribution. Without them, the Department would literally grind to a halt.

Constantly trying to improve existing equipment and develop new aids, Department personnel are frequently recognized for their innovative thinking through the City's employee suggestion program.

'87 vehicle additions

The Department's goal of lowering the years of service of its fleet from 25 to 15 years is back on schedule, following problems experienced with vehicle manufacturers.

Five aerials and four pumpers were replaced in 1987. The Department also upgraded its car and light truck fleet. Eleven new vehicles were purchased: four district vans and a command van, a mid-sized station wagon and mini van were acquired for the Fire Prevention Division, two full-sized sedans were purchased for the assistant deputy chiefs, the Apparatus Division received a new van, and a pick-up truck was bought for Technical Services. All were outfitted in the Department's Body Shop.

The addition of an above ground hoist, a brake meter dynometer, a dial bore gauge and digital photo tachometer, improved the Division's productivity. The Carpentry Shop also acquired a new table saw.

Aided by this technology, the Division processed more than 2,000 work orders — everything from replacing lightbulbs to major engine overhauls.

Oil analysis reduces vehicle down time

An oil analysis testing system, introduced during 1987, has greatly enhanced the Division's preventive maintenance capabilities. With this equipment, mechanics are able to identify problems in their early stages. Vehicle down time has been improved considerably, thanks in part to this early warning system.

The Body Shop refurbished Number 29 aerial and the Reserve District Chief's van and fixed many minor scrapes and dents to Department vehicles.

The Carpentry Shop, which handles a wide variety of specialized woodworking requests, repaired tarps, fire station furniture, and even fixed upholstery.

The Storeroom distributed more than $200,000 worth of equipment. Items provided on request ranged from cleaning supplies to dress uniforms and firefighting gear.

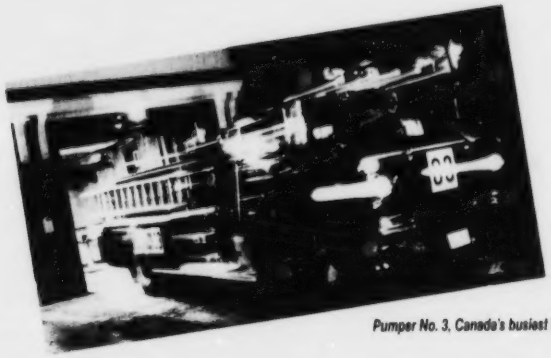
Division personnel were recertified in CPR and first aid. Many mechanics attended manufacturers' courses on engine rebuilding. Staff also attended the Ontario Safety League Fleet Supervisors Course, and the Director attended a course offered by the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst. He also served on an Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada committee investigating ways to improve fire apparatus standards.

Platoon Chief A-1 Shift, Jack McCaul

Platoon Chief A-2 Shift, Lorne Buckingham

Platoon Chief B-1 Shift, Ken Jones

Platoon Chief B-2 Shift, Ron McCarthy



Pumper No. 3, Canada's busiest fire apparatus.

Pumper No. 3 of the Toronto Fire Department was the busiest fire apparatus in Canada during 1987. Operating out of a small station at 12 Grosvenor Street, Pumper No. 3 responded to 3,675 emergency calls within the City's core, four more responses than Pumper No. 7 of the Dundas Street Station, which has traditionally been the nation's busiest. In all, Toronto firefighters responded to 35,764 emergency calls during 1987, a 7.0 percent increase over 1986's 33,429 calls.

TFD firefighters extinguished 3,896 fires during 1987. These included 2,263 building fires, 1,160 incidents involving burning grass or rubbish, and 473 vehicle fires. They also responded to 15,383 medical emergencies and to 3,758 public service calls (rescuing people trapped in elevators, cleaning up chemical spills, etc.). There were 3,354 false alarms and 9,373 accidental alarms during 1987.

Fourteen civilians died and 142 members of the public were injured as a result of fires during 1987. A single member of the Department was killed while on duty, and 152 firefighters were treated for job-related injuries. Captain Donald Babineau died as a result of injuries received during a training exercise. (See article and tribute on page 40.)

Firefighters' additional duties

In addition to their fire suppression and emergency-response duties, firefighters are frequently called upon to assist in fire prevention and public relations activities initiated by the Fire Prevention Division.

During 1987, firefighters were involved in the Get Alarmed Home Inspection Program, the Pre-Fire Inspection and Planning Program, the Fire Safety School Program, and a multitude of special events, including Kidsummer '87 and Media Appreciation Day. As well, they distributed Plan Your Escape Kits, activity books and fire safety literature to residents of all ages. Hundreds of tours of fire stations were also conducted for groups of schoolchildren, scouts, and visitors from near and far.

The Division, which in 1987 included a compliment of 933 firefighters, is organized into four shifts, each of which is supervised by a platoon chief.

Platoon chiefs are responsible for co-ordinating staff, preparing concise information for use in emergencies, and generally keeping abreast of changes in the City's urban fabric that could affect the Department's effectiveness during an emergency.

Toronto firefighters honoured

Firefighters Tom McIlmoyle, Donald Beam, Donald Bray and Ross Wakefield were awarded the Ontario Medal for Firefighters Bravery by The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. The Medal recognizes those individuals whose actions exemplify courage without concern for personal safety. Donald Beam and Donald Bray were also named "Firefighters of the Year" by the Toronto Board of Trade/Toronto Jaycees. (See articles on pages 55 and 56.)

The Department also honoured its own during Fire Service Recognition Day ceremonies held at the Fire Academy. Twenty Letters of Commendation were presented to TFD personnel in recognition of outstanding performance in the line of duty. (See list opposite.)

Captain Starr receives his Exemplary Service Medal and congratulations from Chief Bonser.

The Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal is awarded to fire service personnel with 20 years' service of a nature that is "characterized by good conduct, industry and efficiency that serves as a model for others."

1987 Letter of Commendation and Station Citation Presentations

1987, Feb. 14	270 Roncesvalles Ave.	F/F Don Beam
		F/F Don Bray
		No. 15 Station
1987, Feb. 20	130 Commissioners St.	F/F Rodney McNamara
		F/F Wayne Patterson
		No. 5 Station
1987, May 14	888 Dundas St. E.	F/F Tom McIlmoyle
		No. 7 Station
1987, June 16	50 Alexander St.	F/F Donald Kenney
		No. 10 Station
1986, Sept. 30	72 Borden St.	Capt. Dave Hill
		F/F Gordon Clark
		No. 8 Station
1986, Oct. 24	251 Sherbourne St.	F/F Larry Fry
		F/F Don Harkness
		F/F Gord Crawford
		No. 7 Station
1986, Oct. 27	144 Swanwick Ave.	F/F Norm Wills
		F/F Arthur Nicholls
		F/F Dave Rudd
		F/F Richard Straub
		No. 22 Station
1986, Nov. 1	110 Wellesley St. E.	Capt. Moe Dewitt
		No. 7 Station
		Capt. Stan McKelvey
		No. 3 Station
		F/F Karl Oostrom
		No. 10 Station
		Capt. Norm Law
		No. 11 Station
1986, Dec. 5	58 Woodlawn Ave.	F/F Paul Gustafsson
		No. 24 Station

As he will be remembered: Captain Babineau receives the Exemplary Service Medal from Chief Bonser.

Pumper No. 23 bearing the flag-draped coffin of Captain Donald Babineau leads the funeral procession.

Captain Donald Babineau:
Tribute to a fallen comrade.

"He left with us a great legacy. Men who worked on his truck and learned from him are some of the best firefighters we have."

The man Chief Bonser was honouring with these words was Donald Babineau. A 24-year veteran with the Department, this decorated captain of No. 2 Rescue Squad died Wednesday, September 9, 1987 of injuries he received during a July 8 training exercise. The 49-year-old captain was mortally wounded when air bags and a metal stand being used to lift a streetcar during a simulated rescue shot out, first striking the arm of Firefighter Larry Burnett, and then hitting Captain Babineau on the chest and head. He never regained consciousness.

Approximately 2,000 uniformed Fire Department personnel joined family and friends at a funeral and mass held Saturday, September 12, at St. Andrews Church in Etobicoke. The funeral procession, led by Pumper 23, carrying the flag-draped casket, travelled a distance of approximately two kilometres along Kipling Avenue and Albion Road. The assembled ranks saluted their fallen colleague at the end of his final journey.

Following the service, a reception was held at the Fire Academy in honour of the popular Rescue Squad leader.

A role model for other firefighters, Captain Babineau was a recipient of the Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal which recognizes outstanding performance with the Department. He also received a bravery award in 1967 for blocking the fall of a firefighter who had been blown off an aerial ladder as the result of an explosion.

His courage and dedication to the profession he loved will be remembered forever.

Captain Babineau is survived by his wife, Georgeline, daughter Rita (Mrs. Paul Meger), and by his grandson, Jason.

The following poem was written by Captain Babineau's godchild, Michelle LeBlanc, aged 17, for her godmother.

Do not think of death as an unfortunate thing
You'll realize the happiness this will later on bring
You'll feel more at ease and your mind will rest
The place he has gone to is known as the best

He fought long and hard for his life and for you
Don't feel guilt or regret, you did all you could do
He was tired of feeling the pain every day
So God opened his arms and took him away

He will be missed by all, such a person should be
But we must all be able to understand and see
That while we prayed, he tried harder for us
To remember him healthy is something we must

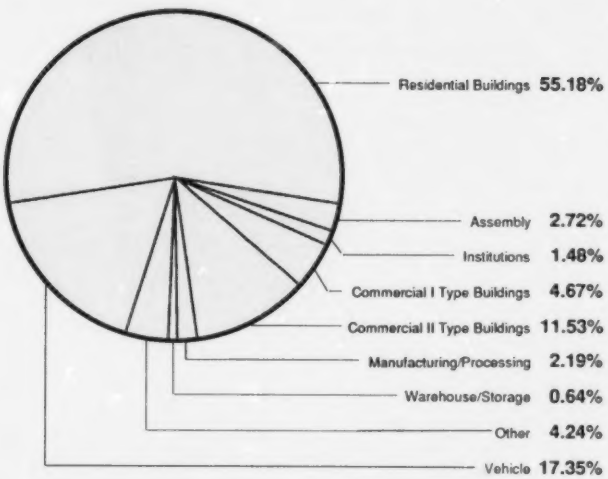
He was a strong man and would want you to be
Move on in your life, set your soul free
You've lost a special man, but you have gained more
To hard times, you'll be able to open your door

Multiple-Alarm Fires during 1987

Date	Time	Address	Occupancy	Cause	Alarm
January 2	0227	1356 Bathurst St.	apartment building	incendiary	3rd
February 15	2239	22 College St.	office building	undetermined	3rd
March 15	0018	110 Jameson Ave.	apartment building	incendiary	2nd
March 21	0006	95 Danforth Ave.	retail stores, restaurant and offices	incendiary	3rd
May 28	0211	256 Westmoreland Ave.	dwelling	incendiary	2nd
June 17	1459	500 Commissioners St.	oil company fuel-filling station	accidental	2nd
June 18	1741	18 Eastern Ave.	tavern	incendiary	2nd
June 28	0228	70 Spadina Rd.	apartment building	accidental	2nd
July 2	1615	220 Sherbourne St.	vacant house	incendiary	3rd
August 26	0149	2 Strachan Ave.	vacant house	incendiary	3rd
October 8	0850	1 Overend St.	manufacturing plant	overheated oven	2nd
October 22	0106	26 Berkeley St.	theatre	accidental/careless discard of smokers' material	2nd
November 2	0023	257 Yonge St.	restaurant	incendiary	2nd
November 23	1903	55 Triller Ave.	high-rise	accidental	2nd
December 16	2146	385 Yonge St.	office building	overheated air-conditioning unit	2nd
December 18	0139	533 Roxton Rd.	house	incendiary	2nd
December 19	0458	60 Sumach St.	factory	accidental	2nd

Following three years of decline, residential fires increased during 1987, accounting for more than half (55.18 %) of all fires.

1987 Structural, Vehicle Fires by Classification



1356 Bathurst Street

Access problems, strong winds, and exposed building materials combined to make Toronto's first three-alarm fire in 1987 a real battle for firefighters.

Communications received numerous calls in the early hours of January 2 concerning a fire in the vicinity of 1356 Bathurst Street, in the area between Alcina Avenue in the north and Burnside Drive to the south.

Pumpers 23 and 25, Aerial 25, and Car 45 were dispatched and had no trouble locating the fire, which lit up the night sky.

Firefighters found Wychwood Park Terrace, a three-storey brick and frame residential complex which was under construction, fully involved in fire. The blaze was spreading to an adjacent two-storey brick storefront church and an attached two-storey brick dwelling to the south. A fire wall on a three-storey apartment/retail complex on the north side of the fire, facing Bathurst Street, slowed the progress of flames in this direction, enabling firefighters to get hose lines in place to protect this exposure. Garages surrounding this complex were burning, as were the rooftops of houses on the south side of Alcina Avenue and the north side of Burnside Drive.

Faced with this quickly-spreading danger, a second alarm was requested at 0235, bringing Pumpers 14, 19, 24 and 27, Aerials 14 and 24, Rescue 2, Command 40, Car 53, Air Supply 1, and members of the Box 12 Association to the scene.

With flames at times soaring 30 metres into the night sky, residents in nearby dwellings were evacuated. Vehicle access to the fire scene was extremely limited. Hose lines had to be laid through backyards and between houses to reach the fire. Aerials had to be extended over buildings on Bathurst Street or operated within the confines of side street driveways.

At 0241, with the north wind gathering strength, Command 40 requested extra trucks to set up water tower operations to protect the homes on the north side of Burnside Drive. As the fire gained intensity, a third alarm was rung in, and additional apparatus were called upon to patrol area streets for flying embers.

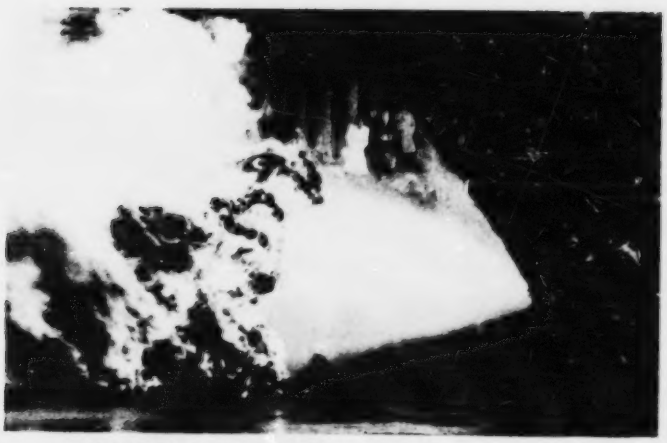
The worrisome blaze was brought under control at 0346. Crews remained on the scene until the afternoon of the following day to clean up and assist fire investigators in determining the cause. Damage was estimated at $329,450.

Despite the many firefighters and support staff involved in what was a difficult emergency, the night-time evacuation of residents, and the large numbers of spectators, no injuries were reported.

22 College Street

At 2239 hours on Sunday, February 15, apparatus were dispatched to a reported fire at 22 College Street, a five-storey office building. Pumper 3, the first apparatus to arrive, reported smoke visible. Immediately following District Chief Warren's arrival an assist call was placed. While sizing up the situation Chief Warren noticed someone standing at a fifth floor window waving their arms. Fighting their way upwards through smoke-filled stairways, the crew from Pumper 10 located the trapped man and managed to bring him safely down the stairs using their self-contained breathing apparatus and "buddy breathing".

Suppression crews determined the fire, which had originated in a ground floor



Firefighters work to control a spectacular blaze in front of Old City Hall, caused when gas leaking from a ruptured main exploded. A workman who was below ground at the time of the explosion was seriously injured. The accident resulted in power failures and traffic snarls near the intersection of Bay and Queen streets.

office, was spreading vertically to the upper floors via the electrical raceways. Following this discovery, a second alarm was requested by the District Chief. Soon after, Platoon Chief Jones requested a third-alarm response.

It required nine pumpers, four aerials and two rescue squads to bring the fire under control.

This blaze, which is under investigation by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, caused considerable fire, smoke and water damage to all five floors of 22 College Street.

Damage to the building and contents, estimated at three quarters of a million dollars, could have been much higher. Quick-thinking salvage and overhaul crews used tarpaulins to protect the building's computer mainframes, terminals, switching mechanisms, and other high-tech equipment.

95 Danforth Avenue

On March 21 at 0006 hours, Car 42, Aerial 26, and Pumpers 26 and 11 responded to a fire call at 95 Danforth Avenue. The first apparatus at the scene, Pumper 11, reported that a serious working fire was underway and that heavy smoke was escaping from the second and third floors of the three-storey brick building. The Captain of Pumper 11 immediately requested a help call. With the arrival of all the first-alarm apparatus, fire companies forcibly entered the building and proceeded to the second floor, where flames were visible under a doorway leading to a large open area containing a restaurant and ballroom. At this point, flames were observed to be travelling through false ceilings and enveloping the entire area. With the spread of the fire and heavy smoke to the building's second and third floors, a second alarm was requested and a command post was established by Fire Command 40.

As fire companies attacked the tricky blaze from the front, rear, and west side of the building, it became clear that more ladders were needed, so a third alarm plus was initiated. As the flames began licking the roof, all firefighters and hand lines were withdrawn from the interior of the building.

Five aerials using turrets, in addition to hose lines operated from wall ladders, were then used to contain the fire. After more than 15 hours of dangerous, backbreaking work, the first alarm companies were able to return to their stations.

Damage to the building and contents was estimated at more than $800,000.

The blaze was incendiary in nature.

256 Westmoreland Avenue

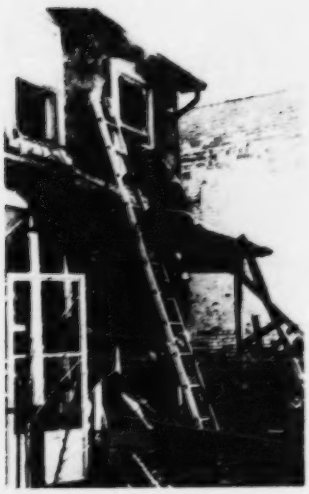
A fire set in a front porch chesterfield caused an estimated $43,000 in damages to three buildings and two vehicles and almost cost the owner of this semi-detached house his life.

It was 0211 hours, Tuesday, May 26, when crews were dispatched to 256 Westmoreland Avenue.

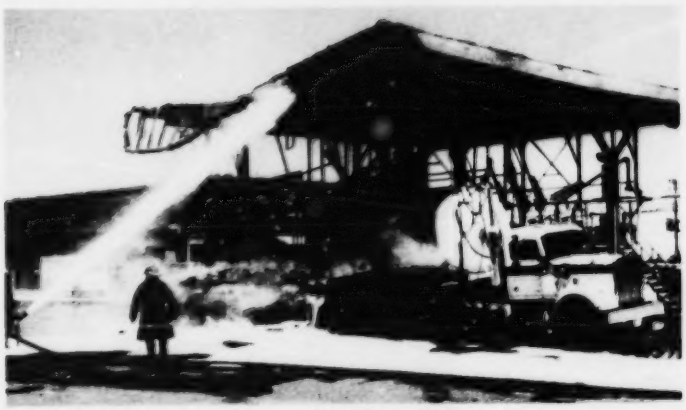
District Chief Whitehead, first to arrive, reported the front lawn of 256 was ablaze and that flames had penetrated into the living-room and were encroaching on vehicles parked in the driveway and the adjoining home at 254 Westmoreland.

Police already at the scene notified Chief Whitehead that the occupants of 256 and 258 were still inside.

At this time, Chief's Aide Steinmeller entered the rear of the smoke-filled 258



Checking the extent of damage at a Claremont Street house fire.



The fire scene at 500 Commissioners Street.

Westmoreland, followed by three police constables. He located the owner collapsed on the stairway and assisted by a police officer, carried him over his shoulder to safety.

Hose lines were directed on to the front porch of 256 and on to 254 Westmoreland, while the crew from Pumper 25 entered with a hose line into the rear of 256. A second alarm was requested by the District Chief at 0215 hours.

Soon after, it was determined that reports of residents still inside 256 were false. Still, the crew from Rescue 2 split into two teams and entered both buildings, to perform a final search.

One firefighter sustained a cut to his hand requiring stitches and two police officers were treated for smoke inhalation.

Cause was established as arson.

Two men have since been charged.

500 Commissioners Street

Wednesday, June 17 was a beautiful summer's day. It also proved to be fatal.

Dispatched at 1459 hours to a reported explosion, the first firefighters to arrive at 500 Commissioners Street found a tanker truck engulfed in flames, parked beside a Shell Canada loading area.

District Chief McIntyre was informed by Snell officials that the tanker had been loading Toluene when the explosion occurred. The company's safety co-ordinator also notified Chief McIntyre that all valves controlling the flow of flammable liquids into the fire scene had been closed, and that all staff had been evacuated. While free to concentrate on directing firefighting efforts, the Chief was still faced with a potentially catastrophic emergency.

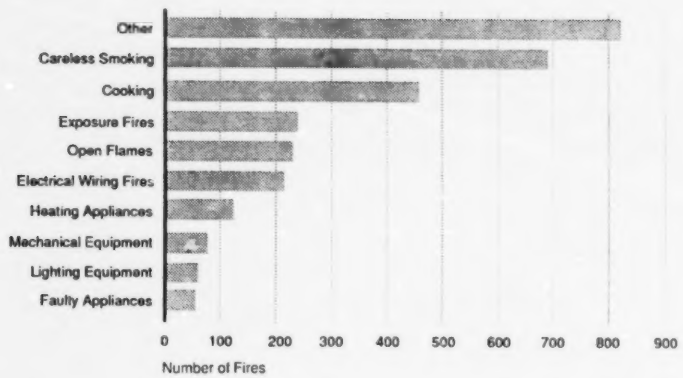
While crews smothered the rear section of the burning tanker with foam, the front section, which was still intact, was hosed down to keep it cool and to prevent further explosions. At 1507 hours, six minutes after the arrival of the initial apparatus, Pumper 30, a second alarm was requested.

As a pillar of dense black smoke spiraled into the clear afternoon sky, firefighting crews continued to play foam on the stubborn and dangerous fire, and streams of water from an aerial, aerial tower and hand lines were used to keep the front section of the tanker from exploding.

As firefighters closed in on the burning transport truck they discovered a body near the blackened and twisted rear of the tanker. The body was later identified as Albert Seabrooke, age 61, a Shell employee who had been loading the tanker at the time of the explosion. Four firefighters were also slightly injured during the incident. Two had Toluene splashed in their eyes and on their backs, and two had inhaled toxic fumes. All were treated at East General Hospital and later returned to duty.

A total of six pumpers, two aerials, one aerial tower, one rescue squad, the hazardous materials unit, a District Chief, Platoon Chief, Assistant Deputy Chief, two

Most Common Sources of Ignition 1987



Three-alarm fire on Sherbourne Street.

Department photographers, and the Department doctor attended the incident.

Damage was listed at approximately $280,000.

70 Spadina Road

Apparatus dispatched to 70 Spadina Road at 0228 hours, Sunday, June 28 arrived to find apartment 415 engulfed in flames and the building's halls fouled with heavy smoke.

A second alarm was called in while the building was evacuated. Several tenants had to be assisted after becoming disoriented by the dense smoke. Three tenants were taken to hospital and treated for smoke inhalation. The occupant of apartment 415 suffered burns to both of his arms. Two firefighters were also slightly injured but remained on duty.

No. 8 Aerial set up water tower operations to protect the building's exposures. Meanwhile, prompt action inside by firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze, which was reported under control at 0258 hours. Chief Bonser and Doctor Bates responded on the second alarm. An investigator from the Fire Marshal's Office was also in attendance.

The fire was determined to have started accidently in a living-room chesterfield. Building damage was estimated at $60,000. An additional $10,000 damage was caused to the contents of apartment 415.

220 Sherbourne Street

At 1815 hours on July 2, a fire was reported at 220 Sherbourne Street. Upon his arrival at 1817 hours, Captain McMurray of Pumper 11 reported a serious working fire and requested a help call.

Heavy smoke blanketed the area, hampering firefighting efforts. Numbers 220 and 222 Sherbourne, semi-detached three-storey brick homes, were fully involved within minutes. Luckily, both houses were unoccupied.

The help call was followed in quick succession by a second alarm at 1820 hours by District Chief McDonald, and a third alarm four minutes later by Platoon Chief Jones.

Firefighting efforts were hampered by the fact that the floors in each of the three-storey residences had collapsed into the buildings' respective basements.

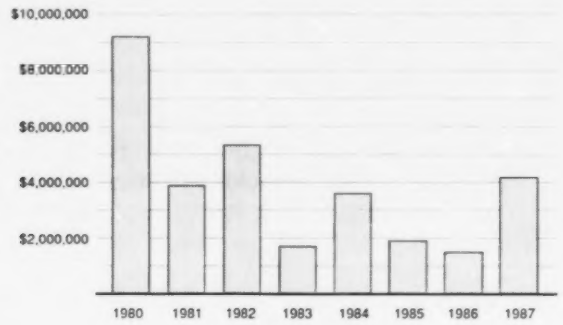
Four aerials, two using water turrets, eight pumpers, and both rescue squads were needed before the blaze was declared under control at 1915 hours.

One firefighter who injured his back while fighting the fire was able to remain on duty.

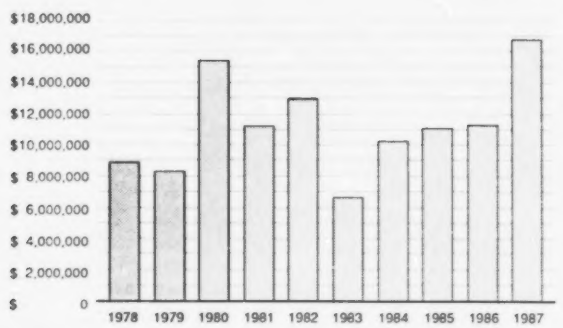
Number 220 Sherbourne received approximately $145,000 in damages; Number 222, $150,000. The blaze also caused $4,800 in damages to the wall and roof on the south side of a rooming house at 224 Sherbourne Street.

An investigation by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office determined the cause to be incendiary.

Dollar Losses Due to Arson 1980-1987



Fire Dollar Losses 1978-1987



257 Yonge Street

A passing police officer reported the fire at 257 Yonge Street in the early hours of Monday, November 2. In response, several vehicles were dispatched to the scene at 0023 hours.

While still several blocks from the incident, Captain Smith of Pumper 3 reported seeing heavy smoke and flames. Upon his arrival, he requested a help call, as the top floor of a two-storey restaurant was fully involved. As other first-response units arrived at the scene, heavy smoke and flames were seen shooting from the rear of the building.

Shortly after the arrival of Acting Platoon Chief Kirk, a second alarm was requested. By this time, crews involved in the initial response had laid out two hand lines on the street, in order to play water on the front of the burning building. Three additional 65-mm hand lines were also set up. One was taken in the front of the building and up a stairway to the smoke-filled second floor. Another was carried up a ladder at the front of the building, while a third was brought up to the second floor via a rear stairway.

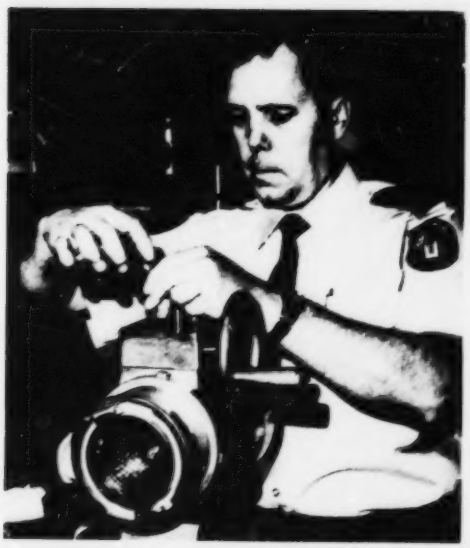
Despite the operation of three 65-mm hand lines on the second floor, the fire continued to build in intensity. Water appeared to have little or no effect on the blaze. Flames flashing overhead and a tremendous build-up of heat forced firefighting crews to evacuate the interior of the building. Two aerials positioned on Yonge Street and a third aerial in a rear lane were quickly brought into action as water towers. About this time a section of roof towards the rear of the building slowly gave way, coming to rest on the floor below. Perimeter lines were set up to contain the fire. Once the aerials had cooled down the building's interior, crews re-entered the badly-damaged restaurant and quickly brought the fire under control, approximately two hours after the incident was first reported.

Six firefighters were treated for injuries, but all remained on duty.

Fire loss to the building and contents was estimated at $350,000. It was quickly established that the fire had been set in a second floor kitchen.

Technical Services Division

Technical Services Division Director, Donald Marks.



Committed to providing the highest standard of service possible.

Firefighting techniques were less sophisticated when the Hose and Equipment Repair Division was established in the late 1940s. Back then, the Division operated out of a small repair shop in the rear of the old Adelaide Street Fire Station. Its small staff of mechanics and craftsmen mostly worked on maintaining the fire extinguishers in City-owned buildings and ensuring the hose, ladders, ropes and other equipment used by the Department's firefighters was in working order.

A lot has changed since then, including the Division's name. It is now called the Technical Services Division, a title which more accurately reflects the Division's wide-ranging support role.

As the following article indicates, the Division still tests and maintains fire extinguishers and fire hose, however this is only one of many responsibilities.

The Division has taken a leadership role in developing, evaluating and applying new technologies and procedures in fire suppression, rescue, first aid, and hazardous materials responses. A new generation of urban firefighting aids — everything from self-contained breathing apparatus to hydraulically-powered forcible-entry tools — are now employed, enabling firefighters to perform their varied duties more effectively and with less risk to the public and themselves.

Division staff are constantly researching and developing new technologies and techniques to combat fires and improve the Department's emergency response capabilities. In many instances, the expertise of Division staff, combined with input from firefighting personnel, has resulted in significant equipment improvements and adjustments.

In addition to evaluating and developing state-of-the-art firefighting aids, Division staff also ensure that equipment used in the Department's fire stations are well maintained.

Division personnel thoroughly investigate and evaluate new equipment, prior to purchase and deployment. This evaluation often involves testing in real-life situations. This was the case when, in an effort to maximize the available water supply, the Department decided to provide all Department pumpers with an eight-m length of 100-mm, high-volume suction hose and the necessary adapters. Disposable face masks were also issued to all apparatus carrying ventilators during 1987. These new face masks will help protect firefighters from communicable diseases while responding to first aid or ventilator calls.

All aerial apparatus and rescue squads have been equipped with pry-axe tools for forcible-entry situations. They also received smoke ejector brackets for use when ventilation is required.

The addition of a CO_2 cartridge recharging system means that Division staff can now service and recharge the many CO_2 extinguishers used in City-owned buildings and by the Department's firefighters. This important maintenance task was previously contracted to an outside agency.

Delivering replacement air cylinders to firefighters battling a stubborn high-rise fire.

To keep pace with changes in technology, developments in emergency response strategies and new maintenance and repair procedures, Division staff regularly attend specialized training courses offered by the fire service and equipment suppliers.

Computer technology, in the form of a stand-alone P.C., is being employed to improve the Division's record keeping and inventory control capabilities.

Division staff are acutely aware that the safety of the Department's firefighters and the public greatly depends on the readiness and the effectiveness of the equipment they maintain. They are committed to providing the highest standards of service possible and ensuring that the Department has access to the most up-to-date and effective mechanical aids and emergency response procedures possible.

1987 Statistics

Types of Fire Hose Tested:	**Number Tested**
Diameter - 100 mm	30
Diameter - 90 mm	42
Diameter - 77 mm	60
Diameter - 65 mm	1,600
Diameter - 38 mm	1,424
Total Hose Tested	3,156

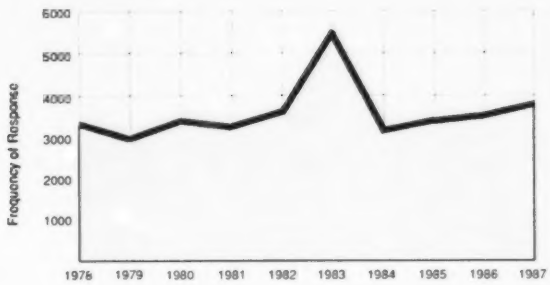
Air Cylinders Recharged:	**Number Recharged**
High-Pressure	10,550
Low-Pressure	695
Total Cylinders Recharged	11,215
Oxygen Cylinders Recharged	2,400

Cylinders Hydrostatically Tested:	**Number Tested**
Air Cylinders Hydrostatically Tested	258
Oxygen Cylinders Hydrostatically Tested	51
Total Cylinders Hydrostatically Tested	309

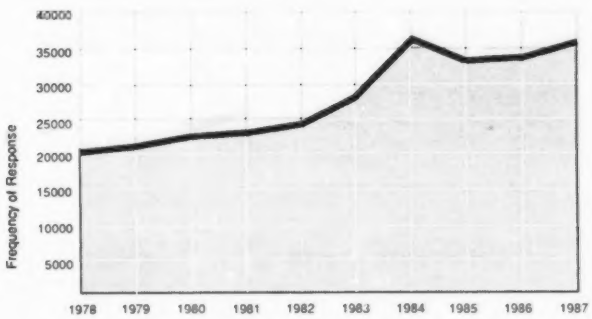
Fire Extinguishers Serviced:	**Number Serviced**
CO_2 Recharged	817
Dry Chemical	292
Pressurized Water	103
CO_2 Hydrostatic	24
Dry Chemical Hydrostatic	10
Pressurized Water Hydrostatic	5
Total Extinguishers Serviced	1,251
S.C.B.A. Serviced	575
Ventilators Serviced	157
Work Orders Processed	1,607
Requisitions Processed	267
Number of Times S.C.B.A. Used	3,867
Total Hours S.C.B.A. Used	1,519

Director of Communications, George Murray.

Public Service Responses 1978-1987



Total Responses 1978-1987



The Communications Division dispatched apparatus on more than 35,000 occasions during 1987; 35,764 times to be precise. This figure represents a 6.6 percent increase over the previous year's total. It also represents a breakthrough of sorts.

The Department is five years ahead of projections, in terms of the number of emergency calls it responds to. A 1978 study, using alarm call statistics for the previous 15 years, forecast that it would take until 1992 for the Department to reach 35,000 emergency responses. Despite this unanticipated increase in demand, the average processing time for emergency calls during 1987 was a very respectable 1½ minutes. (Processing time is how long it takes the dispatcher to obtain and relay accurate information concerning a call for assistance to the most appropriate available fire apparatus and receive acknowledgement from the fire crew that they are on route to the emergency scene. Response time, the period that elapses between when a call for help is recorded by the dispatcher and the confirmed arrival of the first fire apparatus at the emergency scene, averaged three minutes during 1987.)

These desirable processing and response times have been accomplished with essentially the same number of staff as before — only one dispatcher was added to each shift during 1987. This has been possible largely due to the application of a Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Developed by I.P. Sharpe Canada at a cost of $1.5 million, and tailored to meet the Department's particular needs, the CAD system is state-of-the-art telecommunications. With its help, 16 dispatchers, supervised by 6 officers, provide an around-the-clock lifesaving link between the Department's firefighters and those in need.

The CAD system explained

Here's how the system works. When a dispatcher receives a call for assistance, normally as the result of a 911 emergency call, from a still alarm call (when someone walks into a fire hall and reports an emergency), via the police, the ambulance or some other emegency service, or another fire department, he enters the address of the emergency scene into the computer terminal. (With the 911 emergency telephone system, the caller's phone number and address is received automatically.)

When the dispatcher enters the emergency scene address into the computer, it instantaneously identifies the closest cross streets. Next, the dispatcher enters whatever information he has on the call. Almost immediately, the computer determines the most appropriate fire suppression vehicle(s) to respond, based on a split-second evaluation of the characteristics of the call, location of the

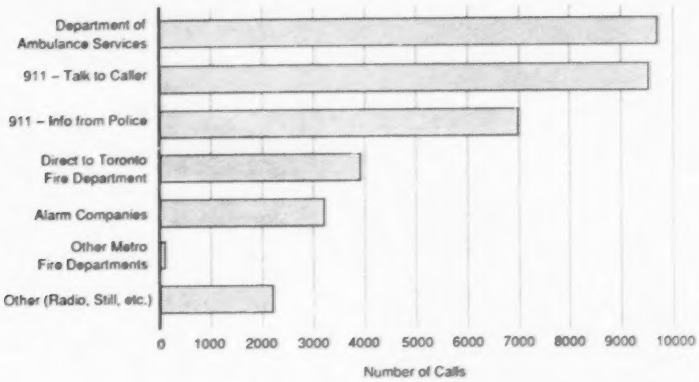
Monthly Alarm Breakdown for 1987

	Type of Call				
	Fires		Other Runs		
	Number	%	Number	%	Total Calls
January	241	8	2,448	91	2,689
February	222	8	2,398	91	2,620
March	331	11	2,583	88	2,914
April	336	11	2,496	88	2,832
May	427	13	2,838	86	3,265
June	377	12	2,701	87	3,078
July	356	10	3,004	89	3,360
August	330	10	2,762	89	3,092
September	332	11	2,669	88	3,001
October	326	10	2,770	89	3,096
November	326	11	2,596	88	2,922
December	289	10	2,586	89	2,875
Total	3,893	10	31,851	89	35,744

	Received by								
	Phone		Still		Radio		Other		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Dollar Loss
January	2,656	98	20	0	10	0	3	0	1,359,920
February	2,573	98	32	1	7	0	8	0	1,425,560
March	2,874	98	28	0	9	0	3	0	1,391,910
April	2,781	98	27	0	18	0	6	0	1,025,893
May	3,194	97	42	1	24	0	5	0	1,094,214
June	3,007	97	40	1	30	0	1	0	2,299,198
July	3,267	97	62	1	30	0	1	0	1,438,885
August	3,020	97	49	1	23	0	0	0	1,229,756
September	2,941	98	38	1	17	0	5	0	927,709
October	3,040	98	39	1	16	0	1	0	1,228,394
November	2,798	95	20	0	15	0	89	3	1,489,425
December	1,521	52	33	1	18	0	303	45	1,902,339
Total	33,672	94	430	1	217	0	425	3	16,813,203

Firefighter Russ Jardine uses a mobile radio to maintain contact with dispatchers.

Origin of Emergency Calls to Toronto Fire Department



emergency, and the availability of fire apparatus.

As soon as the dispatcher approves the computer's recommendation, speakers are automatically turned on at the appropriate fire hall. Following the transmission of a printed message to the station, the alarm tones are sounded (bells no longer ring). The nature and location of the emergency are also broadcast over the fire hall's sound system by the dispatcher.

Once the fire crew acknowledges receipt of the printout and notifies Communications that they are responding, the computer records the fact and removes that particular vehicle from its data bank of available apparatus. A computer-controlled status board and fire station map, located in the dispatch room, provides an up-to-the-minute visual display of the status of all fire suppression apparatus and vehicles. Using mobile and portable radios, fire crews remain in constant contact with dispatchers, enabling them to update the status board.

Alarms Called Received 1973-1987

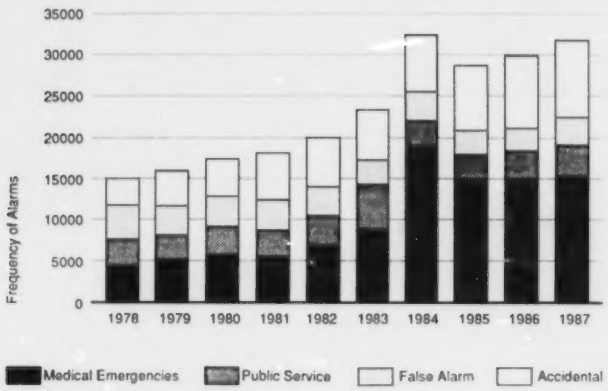
Year	Number of Calls
1973	16,150
1974	17,872
1975	18,974
1976	19,397
1977	20,362
1978	20,008
1979	20,855
1980	22,081
1981	22,745
1982	24,068
1983	27,359
1984	36,323
1985	32,500
1986	33,396
1987	35,744

Microfiche a valuable resource

Depending on the characteristics of the incident, the dispatcher may access the Department's microfiche library, for details on the existence and location of hazardous materials, for example, or for information on the layout of a large building. Data of this sort, much of which is obtained through the Department's Pre-Fire Inspection and Planning (P.I.P.) program, is invaluable to firefighters. The Department's microfiche library also contains precise maps of the City's subway system and of the network of water-mains beneath Toronto's streets.

Vehicles used by District Chiefs and Platoon Chiefs, and Hazard 1, the Department's hazardous materials response unit, are equipped with microfiche readers and copies of fiche. If a dispatcher believes it will be of value, he transmits the appropriate fiche reference number to the command vehicle at the emergency scene. A procedure also exists whereby fire suppression officers can file a CAD Discrepancy Report with the Communications and the Fire Planning and Research divisions. This feedback helps ensure that data stored on microfiche is accurate and up-to-date.

Alarms - Other than Fire 1978-1987



The dispatch room, nerve centre of the Communications Division. From here, 16 dispatchers and six command personnel maintain an around-the-clock lifesaving link between the Department and the community it protects.

Comprehensive response documentation

The CAD system is also capable of producing, on demand, a printout, detailing every step in each emergency response. This, along with a recording of all telephone and radio conversations, ensures that a complete accounting exists of each incident. This documentation is used during follow-up investigations and as a means of evaluating the Department's performance.

INTRAC, short for Integrated Radio Alarm and Control, was developed in 1985 as an adjunct to the CAD system. Designed to be installed in high-risk buildings such as hospitals and nursing homes, INTRAC automatically notifies the Department's Communications Division when an alarm occurs. To date, City Hall is the only building protected with this technology.

Dispatchers gained valuable experience co-ordinating the movement of large numbers of apparatus during two simulations staged during 1987. Designed to test the effectiveness of both equipment and personnel during a major crisis, these training exercises involved a mock plane crash at the Toronto Island Airport, and a realistic subway train derailment in the tunnel between Coxwell and Woodbine stations.

The combination of well-trained personnel and modern technology that exists in Communications, and throughout the Department for that matter, ensures that Torontonians are protected by a timely and effective emergency response system, a leading-edge system that is constantly being evaluated and tested to ensure that it meets the needs of today and tomorrow.

Director of Training, William Mount.

Gaining invaluable experience battling flammable liquid fires under controlled conditions.

The confidence firefighters project during emergencies comes from knowing you have the equipment, the skills, and the training necessary to resolve life-threatening situations safely and efficiently.

While courage is a common trait among firefighters, so are caution and a healthy sense of self preservation. Firefighters are able to perform bravely under pressure because they are professionals, doing what they do best.

The firefighter's education begins the day he or she joins the Department and continues throughout his or her career.

Recruits and veterans alike are taught the theory and practical applications of firefighting and fire prevention at the largest and most innovative training facility of its kind in the country — the Toronto Fire Academy.

Home to the Training, Technical Services and Medical divisions, this Eastern Avenue complex houses a museum, a memorial garden, and an active fire station, Number 30. It also includes a 500-seat auditorium, a seven-storey indoor training tower, several classrooms equipped with audio-visual aids, and numerous outdoor amenities used to stage realistic simulations. These include a two-storey fire house, where firefighters and their equipment are tested. Also on the fireground are tanks and pits that provide firefighters with an opportunity to gain invaluable experience in battling flammable liquid fires under controlled conditions. Hazardous materials emergencies are also simulated on the fireground so that crews can learn how to cope with these increasingly common types of incidents.

It's here, through lectures, films, demonstrations and realistic exercises, that recruits are introduced to the myriad of skills associated with the demanding profession they have chosen. Recruits spend six weeks at the Academy learning the "basics", everything from practising extinguishing fires and high-rise rescues, to performing CPR. They are also taught the importance of following orders, and learn how to work effectively as members of a team.

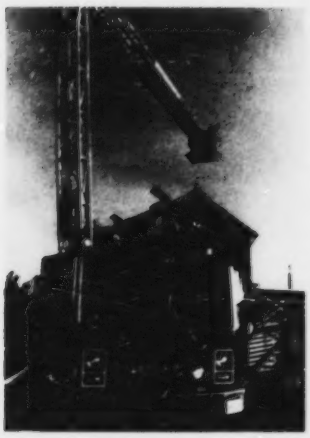
These probationary firefighters, who are in top physical condition and by now oriented as to the equipment and techniques they will depend upon to protect themselves and save others, are next assigned to one of the Department's 27 fire halls. For an additional 13 to 15 weeks, in-service training continues under the watchful eyes of veteran fire suppression officers. This is followed by a one-week re-evaluation at the Academy, prior to graduation.

More than 660 recruits have passed through the Academy since it opened in 1970.

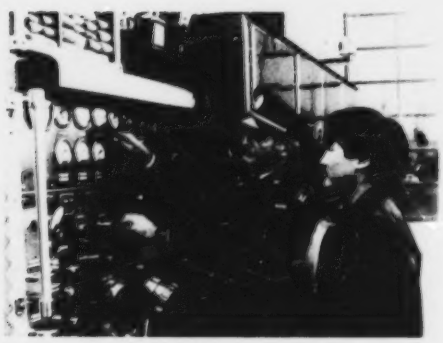
Mandatory "refresher" courses

Captains and firefighters are required to return to the Academy at least twice a year for intensive classroom and fireground training. These sessions not only cover the latest developments in firefighting and rescue techniques and equipment, but also review subjects such as controlling hazardous materials incidents, new emergency medical procedures, changes to fire prevention legislation, and arson investigation techniques.

Ladder-raising exercise teaches recruits the importance of teamwork.



Aerial Tower No. 5 tackles a simulated blaze at the Academy's fire house.



A recruit receives pointers on pump operations from Captain George Allison.

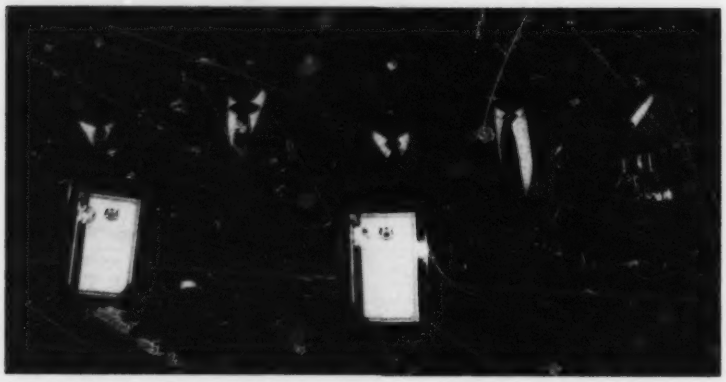
Professional development courses for fire suppression officers are also presented regularly at the Academy. These courses last from two days to two weeks, depending on their scope and content. While a wide variety of topics have been covered, of late, the emphasis has been placed on assisting officers to develop their tactical command and managerial skills.

Training Division instructors devote considerable energy and time to ensuring fire suppression personnel are proficient in the operation of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and first aid. SCBA and CPR both require annual re-certification. The St. John's Ambulance first aid certificate is valid for three years.

A defensive driving course, modelled after the Canada Safety Council's Professional Driver Improvement Course, was offered on a Department-wide basis during 1987. Several firefighters and a training officer have attained instructional skills in this important subject and are now sharing their accident-prevention knowledge with their colleagues.

The Training Division continues to expand its use of audio-visual teaching aids, including video recording and playback equipment, both at the Academy and in the fire halls. Division staff are also constantly assessing and improving training techniques and technical reference materials, including working with fire suppression officers to update the Officer's Manual, in the never-ending challenge of preparing their colleagues for any eventuality.

TFD Firefighters Awarded Ontario Medal for Bravery



Ontario Medal for Firefighter Bravery award winners, Don Beam, left, and Don Bray, pose with Lieutenant-Governor Lincoln M. Alexander, second from left, Ontario Premier David Peterson, and Chief Bonser, following presentation ceramonies at Queen's Park.

Tom McIlmoyle receives his Ontario Medal for Firefighter Bravery citation from the Lieutenant-Governor.

City of Toronto personnel received four of the eight Medals for Bravery awarded to firefighters by the Ontario government in 1987. The recipients, Firefighters Don Beam, 32, Don Bray, 35, Tom McIlmoyle, 28, and Ross Wakefield, 43, were presented with their prestigious awards by Chief Bernard A. Bonser during a ceremony at the Ontario Legislature on October 27.

Established by the provincial government in 1976, the Ontario Medal for Firefighters Bravery honours fire service personnel who have risked their own lives to save others.

Firefighters Beam and Bray were recognized for their courageous actions during a February 14 fire at 270 Roncesvalles Avenue.

When the aerial and pumper crews from Landsdowne Avenue Station Number 15 arrived at the scene, shortly after 11:00 p.m., (2300 hrs) dense smoke was escaping from basement windows and flames were shooting from the rear of the West End building.

In an attempt to play water on the seat of the fire, Firefighter Beam worked his way into the basement with a 38-mm hose line. Unaware of Beam's actions, Firefighter Bray entered the basement in search of a victim reported trapped. Within minutes, the two firefighters had fought their way through intense smoke and heat to within a few metres of the fire's source. Hearing Bray's call for help, Beam left his hose line and started searching for his yelling comrade. Although only centimetres apart, the zero visibility caused by the choking smoke and the unfamiliar layout of the basement made it difficult for the two firefighters to locate each other. Eventually they did link up, and together they struggled over scattered furniture to carry an unconscious man out of the burning basement.

Firefighter McIlmoyle was honoured for his daring rescue of a severely burned rooming house tenant.

It was 12:26 a.m. (0026 hrs) when the alarm sounded at Number 7 Station, notifying Pumper 7 crew of a fire at 888 Dundas Street East. Informed that a man was trapped in a third-floor apartment, near the fire's source, Firefighter McIlmoyle battled his way inside the burning apartment. Despite inferno-like conditions, he managed to locate the man approximately four metres inside the apartment. Carefully handling the victim because of the severity of his burns, McIlmoyle was able to manoeuvre the man to the apartment's doorway, where he was assisted by other TFD personnel.

Firefighter Wakefield was feted for his thrilling rescue of an infant from a burning Vanauley Walk townhouse on March 28, 1986. His courageous actions also earned him the Junior Board of Trade's Firefighter of the Year accolade. The details of Firefighter Wakefield's bravery are included in the following article.

Infant Rescue Earns TFD Firefighters Junior Board of Trade's Top Accolade

Firefighter James S. McCracken.

Firefighter Milton A. Bond.

Firefighter Ross K. Wakefield.

City of Toronto firefighters Milton Bond, 30, James McCracken, 32, and Ross Wakefield, 43, were named 1986 Firefighters of the Year by the Junior Board of Trade/Toronto Jaycees for their courageous rescue of an infant from a burning townhouse.

When the crews from Number 2 and Number 8 stations arrived at 103 Vanauley Walk in the early hours of March 28, 1986, they found the home engulfed in flames.

Informed by neighbours that a six-month-old girl was trapped inside, Firefighters Bond, McCracken and Wakefield immediately attacked the fire. Led by Firefighter Wakefield, the three battled their way past the burning entrance and crawled up the stairs through severe smoke and flames to search for the missing child.

Entering a second-floor bedroom, Firefighter Wakefield located the endangered tot lying on a mattress on the floor. Cradling the gurgling child in his arms next to his chin, he pulled off his face mask to allow air from his self-contained breathing apparatus to help the little girl. In this manner he retraced his path out of the burning building as his fellow firefighters fought to keep the flames at bay.

Unable to locate any vital signs from the infant as he was leaving the house, Firefighter Wakefield called on Captain Stan Dutka to get a ventilator. Working together they initiated CPR and gave the infant oxygen. A second check for vital signs revealed a slight pulse and the little girl was rushed by ambulance to hospital. Sadly, she later died.

TFD Team Ties Up Competition in Provincial First Aid Challenge

No wonder they're smiling: the Department's first aid team pose with their three major awards. From left to right, they are: Brien White, Rob Dies, John Morrison, coaches Cecilia McKenzie and Pat Vousden, Barry Locke, Rick Annis, and Dan McMurray.

Toronto firefighters competing in the Provincial Open First Aid Competition wrapped up the 1987 awards, beating out 44 teams to place first overall. In addition to taking the top honours, the TFD team won the Levitt Safety Award for the third consecutive year, and also earned the Open Senior Mens Trophy.

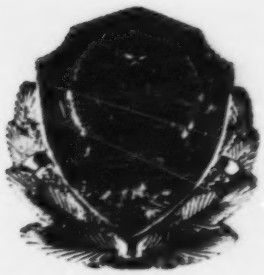
The Department's winning team included Rick Annis, Rob Dies, Barry Locke, Dan McMurray, John Morrison and Brien White. The team was coached by Cecilia McKenzie and Pat Vousden, both members of the St. John's Ambulance.

Donated by Mr. Walter Levitt, President of Levitt Safety Limited in 1977, the award that bears his name is presented to the team of firefighters with the greatest cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid skills.

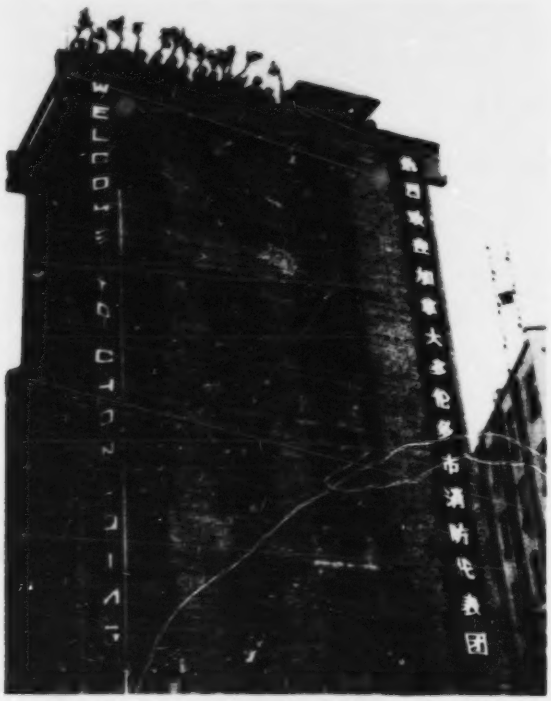
Organized by the St. John's Ambulance, the 17th annual First Aid Competition was held May 2 at Toronto's Fort York Armory. It attracted entrants of all ages from across Ontario, including members of the military, miners, railway crews, police, and emergency services personnel.

Volunteers acted as victims with realistic wounds and injuries. Teams were given the same accidents and injuries to contend with. Contestants were judged on their ability to ensure the safety of victims, whether bandages were applied correctly and in the proper places, and if help was summoned effectively. Treatment time was only a deciding factor in the event of a tie.

TFD Delegation Visits China to Share Expertise, Technology



Chinese fire service badge.



The Department's delegation receives a warm welcome from Chongqing firefighters.

A delegation of TFD officials, led by Chief Bernard A. Bonser, travelled to the cities of Beijing and Chongqing during May, 1987 in the latest of a series of information and technology exchanges between the fire services of the Peoples' Republic of China and of the City of Toronto.

The delegation, which included Medical Director Dr. J. Terence Bates, Information Officer Ray Willis, and Captains Donald K. Ball, William McDonald and Jack Sharp, presented a series of workshops. Topics covered included fire prevention, firefighting in high-rise buildings, occupational training, health and fitness for firefighters, communication procedures, and rescue operations, focusing on extrication techniques for automobile accident victims.

The globe-spanning friendship was struck by Chief Bonser in 1982 when he met with officials from the Fire Bureau, Ministry of Public Security, while heading a delegation of Canadian fire service officials on a scientific and technical exchange mission to the Peoples' Republic of China.

As a result of an agreement reached during this exchange, Mr. Wu Zhifeng, a junior fire officer with the Fire Bureau, spent two years studying with the Toronto Fire Department.

Long-term goals for co-operation between the TFD and the Chongqing Security Bureau were formalized on March 28, 1986, when the historic Sister City Agreement was signed by Mayor Xiao Yang of Chongqing and Mayor Art Eggleton of Toronto.

The sister city link forged in Chongqing was strengthened when Mayor Xiao led a delegation of senior officials from Chongqing's Economic Commission and Foreign Affairs Office to Toronto in October and November of 1986. Following a tour of the Toronto Fire Academy and a demonstration of rescue techniques, Mayor Eggleton presented Mayor Xiao with a rescue and auto extrication kit, for use by the Chongqing Security Bureau. This kit includes the "Prestige Spreader", hydraulic equipment used to safely and quickly release victims trapped during serious accidents.

This gift of life-saving equipment, and the ongoing exchange of knowledge and training, symbolizes the special bond that exists between these two great cities; a friendship that recognizes the mutual benefits of sharing advances in culture, commerce, medicine, technology and learning.

TFD staff are looking forward to a planned visit to Toronto in 1988 by their Chinese counterparts. This meeting will provide an opportunity to compare approaches to fire command and administration, underground fire prevention and suppression (an area where the Chinese have considerable experience), fire investigation techniques, and exchange information on new equipment and firefighting and rescue techniques.

A female Chinese firefighter demonstrates her athletic prowess.

The Chinese fire service is operated along military lines and is part of that nation's security system.

Firefighting in China

The fire service in the Peoples' Republic of China is structured and controlled through a centralized national agency, known as the "Fire Bureau, Ministry of Public Security." State controlled, it is part of the nation's security system.

Serving with the fire service is primarily viewed as a means of fulfilling military service obligations. Few Chinese choose firefighting as a career. The tour of duty lasts three years. Firefighters work a 24-hour on-duty and 24-hour off-duty shift for six straight days. They are required to remain in the station during their off-duty days, but may leave on the seventh day. Firefighting apparatus is smaller than in North America to compensate for the narrow streets in older areas of Chinese cities. Most vehicles are staffed by a driver and six firefighters. The driver is classified as an engineer, and is solely responsible for the maintenance and operation of the apparatus.

In many cases, senior officers are former members of the armed forces, however, this appears to be changing. Younger officers being promoted today are likely to have university educations and specialization training in engineering, research, "fire sciences" and administration. This change in leadership is being implemented gradually and has yet to be reflected in the senior ranks of the country's fire service.

China's fire service consists of public fire departments, industrial fire departments, and voluntary fire teams. The public fire departments form the backbone of the firefighting forces. Industrial fire departments are generally formed and led by large or medium-sized enterprises, operated at professional standards. The volunteer teams consist of local people organized by neighbourhood committees. Together, these forces shoulder responsibilities for both fire prevention and fire suppression.

Resources and funding to improve the Chinese fire service do not appear to have a high priority, and local incentives do not seem to be forthcoming. Because the Fire Bureau, both at the local and national level, is considered an arm of the public security system, there is limited long-range planning to expand it's role. Evidence does exist however, of attempts to modernize and prepare the fire service to meet the challenge of greater industrialization and use of technology in Chinese society. This will be difficult to achieve without some clear cut mandate being established for the fire service.

One positive step is the development of programs, similar to the one involving the TFD, that permit Chinese fire officers to visit and study in other countries. This could prove beneficial if the experience gained abroad is employed at the local and national level in China.

All photographs, unless otherwise credited, by the Toronto Fire Department Information Section.

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